

# Mountaineer

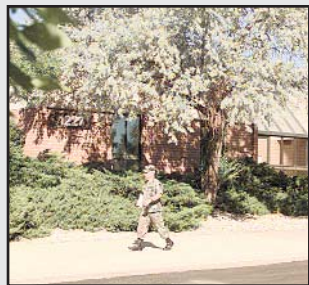
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## INSIDE Larson



There is more to Larson Dental Clinic than cavities and fillings.

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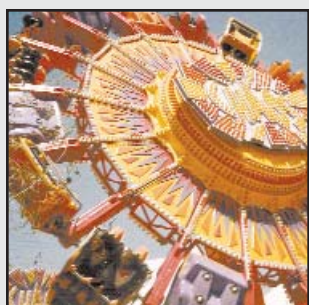
## 3rd ACR



Soldiers of the cavalry conduct live-fire exercise to help beat the monotony.

See Page 11

## Happenings



More than 40 rides, inclix Flags Elitch Gauding four roller coasters, are in Srdens theme park in downtown Denver.

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# Soldiers flip flapjacks for 40th year



Photos by Spc. Bryan Beach

Sergeant Harry Belford, 23rd Maintenance Company, flips a flapjack during the 40th annual street breakfast, which kicks off the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

### Fort Carson Public Affairs Office

Soldiers from the 43rd Area Support Group flipped thousands of pancakes on a field kitchen set up in the middle of Pikes Peak Avenue in downtown Colorado Springs Wednesday morning.

The occasion was the kickoff for the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, which runs Aug. 9 though 13. Thousands of local citizens, soldiers and tourists lined up for the chance to eat "Army" pancakes and scrambled eggs.

"Flying W Wranglers" played cowboy music. A western re-enactment group entertained and children enjoyed a clown's antics, balloons and a petting zoo. Local businesses and organizations had mascots and givaways.

After the crowd had consumed thousands of pancakes and gallons of coffee, the crowd sat back on hay bales and enjoyed the show. As one Colorado Springs resident put it, "I think this is great. To have all these communities involved is wonderful."



Pancakes are ladled onto a hot griddle during the street breakfast downtown Wednesday.



Photo by Spc. Socorro A. Spooner

## Dancing tots ...

Daniel Soto, center, dances to the beat of the drums during the Tiny Tots dance at the Lone Feather Council PowWow Sunday at the Post Physical Fitness Center. See Page 5



## Commander's Corner

# Rodeo a post tradition



Soriano

**"The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is the best example of our dedication to community partnership."**

Traditions are important in the Army, from our formal ceremonies to those more light-hearted occasions we associate with personal achievement. When an Army tradition ties in with community traditions, it binds the two more closely together.

We are fortunate here at the Mountain Post to have that tie with our community in the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo. This year the rodeo is Aug. 9 to 13. Every performance is dedicated to the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces and proceeds are donated to programs benefiting soldiers and their families. Over the past 54 years, more than three-quarters of a million dollars in donations from the rodeo proceeds have helped support the Pikes Peak United Services Organization and Fort Carson Army Community Services programs.

Wednesday morning I was with those thou-

sands who showed up for the Rodeo pancake breakfast. We were there for a 40-year tradition that Fort Carson has been an integral part of. I am proud of our 72 soldiers from the 43rd Area Support Group who set up just after midnight and prepared 10,000 pancake breakfasts. I know that this partnership strengthens the bonds between Fort Carson and the Colorado Springs community.

This year Fort Carson will receive a special honor. On Aug. 8, along with nine individuals, Harry Vold's Bucking Horse of the Year and one local business, the Mountain Post will be inducted into the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Hall of Fame. To be inducted means that you have done something above the ordinary. I am proud that we will be so recognized.

August 11 has been designated "Fort Carson Night." Following the rodeo, there will be a tribute to soldiers and families of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Tickets for all performances of the rodeo are available from unit 1st sergeants, sergeants major and the Information, Tickets and Registration Office in the Mini Mall. I encourage you all to take this opportunity to see a bit of Western tradition and have a good time.

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is the best example of our dedication to community partnership. Volunteers from the Mountain Post Team serve on the planning committees, help with parking and assist in a thousand other ways. The Fort Carson Mounted Color Guard will lead the

parade on Aug. 9 at 10 a.m. and carry the colors at every performance. Soldiers will carry the state flags in the parade and several units will participate as well. Harmony in Motion will grace Fort Carson Night with their unique vocal interpretations.

On July 31, The Girl of the West, Nicole Field, and her aide, Kim Belger, will visit Fort Carson to promote the rodeo. It will be your chance to meet them and find out more about the program.

In addition to the rodeo itself, which ranks among the top 20 in the country, on Aug. 5 the PPBR will host the Kiddie Rodeo Revue. "Little Buckaroos" will be decked out in their Western finery to compete for an assortment of prizes. If you have a family member who is interested, call the Rodeo office at 635-3547 for more information.

In all my assignments, I have never experienced such a close bond between our civilian and military communities as I have here at Fort Carson during Rodeo time. I hope you all will join me in continuing this fine tradition and attend the 60th Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

Mission first ... people always ... one team! Bayonet!

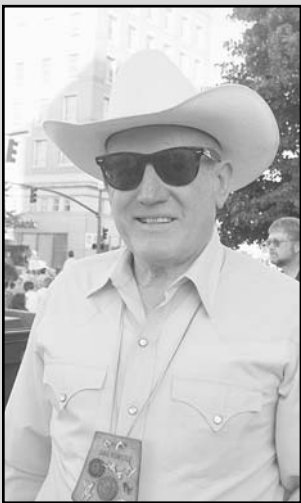
**Major General Edward Soriano**

*Commanding General*

*7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson*

## Sound Off!

**"What do you think of the soldiers cooking breakfast?"**



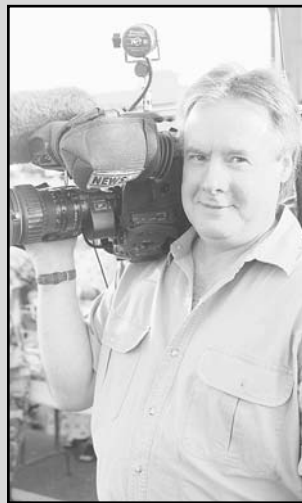
**Jake Kunstle**  
**Pikes Peak Range Rider**  
"I think it's a great community effort. It's great to have our neighbors to the south getting involved."



**Lisa Nanning**  
**Sertoma Club member**  
"I think it's wonderful that the soldiers volunteer their time, and the people seem to enjoy it."



**Susan Benson**  
**Retired Air Force**  
"Getting the military involved in the community is a great idea. I'll definitely come again next year."



**Joe Yates**  
**Channel 13**  
"It's a good community effort by the soldiers."

### MOUNTAINEER

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# NEWS

## Post receives President’s Quality Award

**United States Office of Personnel Management**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Fort Carson and the 7th Infantry Division received the Merit Award from the 13th Annual President’s Quality Award Program during the Excellence in Government 2000 conference July 13.

The PQA Program recognizes employees and their organizations for delivering on President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore’s pledge to make government work better, cost less and provide quality services to its many and varied customers.

“Our nation gives better medical care to its veterans, equips our military with the people and means to protect our national interests, and effectively develops instruments of peace in research labs because federal employees have made a commitment to their work and the American people they serve,” Clinton said. “I’m proud of these dedicated employees who serve as positive models for all those who relish the unique challenges offered by public service.”

Janice Lachance, director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management – the agency that administered the President’s Quality Awards Program – was also ready with praise for the honorees.

“Each of the men, women and organizations we honored have made a contribution to the quality of life of all Americans,” Lachance said. “They have accomplished remarkable feats on behalf of a White House

that sought change for a public that demanded change. Even with all that’s been accomplished, the best is yet to come.”

Fort Carson is one of the premier military posts within the United States Army, and home to the 7th Infantry Division. This post is distinguished by an exemplary record of commitment to the principles of quality and continuous improvement. It is the commitment to quality and service by civilian employees and military personnel who work side-by-side that has earned the 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson a Merit Award and a third consecutive year of honors by the President’s Quality Award Program.

Success at Fort Carson has been made possible by the support for change from the highest levels at the post and enthusiasm and dedicated teamwork by members of the Mountain Post Team. They drive the engine that moves the installation’s implementation of management practices and strategies that keep the team focused on the “Vision 2010 Strategic Plan,” which serves as a road map to the future.

Fort Carson has taken a leadership role in developing and expanding relationships and partnering opportunities with its neighboring communities. Leaders at Fort Carson have successfully established an energized team of empowered, involved people who work together at a very high energy level.

The 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson personify the motto: “Mission First ... people always ... one team.”

## FORSCOM Centurion Team to visit Post Fort Carson Quality and Reinvention Team

A team of 10 Forces Command Centurion representatives, six of them quality examiners, led by Vicky Jefferis, Deputy Chief of Staff for Resource Management, will visit Fort Carson July 24 to 28 to assist the post in assessing progress toward building more effective business systems.

This visit is part of the FORSCOM Centurion Award Program, which is the catalyst to our continued improvement and sustained performance relative to mission and operational readiness as well as improving the quality of life for its soldiers and communities.

The program embraces the tenets of the Malcolm Baldrige National Criteria for Performance Excellence and the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. These criteria are used as a framework to design and apply comprehensive business systems to installation business operations. Successful criteria application will ultimately result in fact-based performance improvements. Competing in these award programs fosters pride of ownership, recognizes outstanding achievements and provides an example to others; most importantly, it demonstrates to our soldiers and their families our commitment to improving their quality of life here.

The 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson is firmly committed to supporting the FORSCOM Centurion Program. The division and post have been proud to consistently and successfully represent FORSCOM and our Army in the Centurion, Army Communities of Excellence and President’s Quality Award Programs since 1995. Recent accomplishments this past year include: Centurion 1999 Best in Class Category, Customer and Market Focus; 2000 Army Communities of Excellence Chief of Staff, Army finalist; and 2000 PQA for Merit.

The FORSCOM visit next week marks the beginning of the calendar year 2000/2001 series of performance evaluations. This is the post’s opportunity to tell its story and demonstrate to the visiting team its commitment to continuous improvement and total quality.

The FORSCOM team is here to assist the post in its improvement efforts. Please introduce yourself and give a “Mountain Post Welcome” to the visiting FORSCOM guests next week.

# Going AWOL doesn’t pay, punishable under UCMJ

by Maj. Steven Brodsky  
Chief, Criminal Law Division  
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

A soldier may decide to go Absent Without Leave, or AWOL, for any number of reasons. In the short term, going AWOL may seem like an easy way out of a problem but in the long run, the consequences make going AWOL an expensive proposition. Soldiers should know that there are adverse administrative and punitive consequences that can result from any unauthorized absence.

Absence without leave is a criminal offense in violation of Article 86 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Soldiers who go AWOL may be punished at a court-martial or receive an Article 15. The maximum punishment at court-martial for an AWOL of up to three days is reduction to Private (E-1), confinement for one month and forfeiture of two-thirds pay for one month. An AWOL between three and 30 days can result in reduction to Private (E-1), confinement for six months, and forfeiture of two-thirds pay for 6 months. Absence longer than 30 days carries a maximum punishment of confinement for one year, reduction to Private (E-1), total forfeiture of all pay

and allowances and a dishonorable discharge. Any unauthorized absence longer than 30 days that is terminated by apprehension carries a maximum punishment of up to 18 months in prison, in addition to a dishonorable discharge, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances and reduction to Private (E-1).

Soldiers who go AWOL with the intent to avoid hazardous duty or shirk important service are guilty of desertion under Article 85 of the UCMJ. Soldiers who go AWOL with the intent to remain away permanently are also guilty of desertion. The maximum punishment for desertion during peacetime ranges from two to five years of confinement, depending on the circumstances.

A soldier who goes AWOL may also face administrative separation proceedings, commonly referred to as a “chapter.” AWOL soldiers are often separated for the commission of a serious offense under the provisions of Chapter 14-12c of Army Regulation 635-200. This type of administrative separation can result in a general or other than honorable discharge, which, for first term soldiers, means the loss of educational benefits and may effect other benefits administered by the Department of the Army and the

Department of Veteran’s Affairs.

In addition, any AWOL in excess of 24 hours results in lost time, which must be made up, day for day, at the end of the soldier’s current enlistment. For example, if a soldier goes AWOL for 28 days, he must serve an additional 28 days at the end of his enlistment before he can ETS.

AWOL also has an impact on reenlistment. Any soldier who is AWOL for more than 24 hours must first obtain a waiver from the appropriate level commander before he or she can re-enlist. The authority to grant a waiver for AWOLs up to 15 days is the battalion commander; for AWOLs up to 30 days the commanding general must grant the waiver and for AWOLs longer than 30 days only the commander of Personnel Command may grant the required waiver.

Finally, do not forget the monetary cost of going AWOL. Soldiers who go AWOL are generally not entitled to pay and allowances for the period of their absence.

As you can see, the consequences of even the shortest unauthorized absence can be very serious. If you think things through, you’ll realize that going AWOL doesn’t pay.



# Community



Patrons visit vendors during the PowWow Saturday and Sunday.



Dancers swirl their decorative, fringed shawls during the competition.



Photos by Spc. Socorro A. Spooner

Junior medicine doctor dancers move to the beat of the drum during the PowWow Sunday.

## *Keeping traditions alive ...*

Hundreds of spectators attended the Lone Feather Council PowWow at the Post Physical Fitness Center Saturday and Sunday to see American Indian dancing, eat traditional food and visit with American Indian vendors. The event featured tribal dances and individual dancing competitions for young and old alike.

American Indians from the surrounding communities and states came to participate in the event.

This year's PowWow princess is Brittney Marris, daughter of Sgt. Harold Marris, 43rd Area Support Group, and his wife Sue.

## Proper dental hygiene could save unnecessary trips to dentist

### Fort Carson Dental Activity

#### What is the best technique for brushing?

There are a number of effective brushing techniques. Patients are advised to check with their dentist or hygienist to determine which is the best one for them since tooth position and gum conditions vary.

One effective, easy-to-remember technique involves using a circular or elliptical motion to brush a couple of teeth at a time, gradually covering the entire mouth. Place a toothbrush beside your teeth at a 45-degree angle and gently brush teeth in an elliptical motion. Brush the outside of the teeth, inside the teeth, your tongue and the chewing surfaces and between teeth. Using a back-and-forth motion causes the gum surface to recede, or can expose the root surface or make the root surface tender.

#### Soft or hard bristles?

In general, a toothbrush head should be small for easy access. It should have a long, wide handle for a firm grasp. It should have soft, nylon bristles with round ends. Some brushes are too abrasive and can wear down teeth. A soft, rounded, multi-tufted brush can clean teeth effectively. Medium and hard bristles are not recommended.

#### When should I replace my toothbrush?

Your toothbrush should be replaced every four to six months. When the bristles start fanning out and no longer are standing straight up, it is time to change your toothbrush. Your toothbrush should be sterilized occasionally, every few weeks, or immediately after recovering from a cold or flu. Sterilization is easily accomplished by placing in the dishwasher.

#### How long should I brush?

It might be a good idea to brush with the radio on, since dentists generally recommend brushing three to four minutes, the length of an average song. Using an egg timer is another way to measure your

brushing time. Patients generally think they're brushing longer but most spend less than a minute brushing.

#### Should I brush at work?

Definitely, but most Americans don't brush during the workday. Dentists say it's a good idea to keep a toothbrush in your desk, which increases the chances you'll brush during the day by 65 percent, according to a recent survey released by Oral-B laboratories and the Academy of General Dentistry. Getting the debris off teeth right away stops sugary snacks from turning to damaging acids, and catches starchy foods like potato chips before they turn to cavity-causing sugar. If you brush with fluoride toothpaste in the morning and before going to bed, you don't even need to use toothpaste at work. If you don't have a toothbrush, rinsing your mouth with water for 30 seconds after lunch also helps.

#### Why is brushing with toothpaste important?

Brushing with toothpaste, also called a dentifrice, is important for several reasons. First, a toothpaste and a correct brushing action work to remove plaque, a sticky, harmful film of bacteria that grows on your teeth that causes cavities, gum disease, and eventual tooth loss if not controlled. Second, the toothpaste contains fluoride, which makes the entire tooth structure more resistant to decay and promotes demineralization, which aids in repairing early decay before the damage can even be seen, third, special ingredients in the dentifrice help to clean and polish the teeth and remove stains over time. Fourth, toothpaste helps freshen breath and leaves your mouth with a clean feeling.

#### What type of toothpaste should I use?

As long as your toothpaste contains fluoride, the brand you buy really does not matter. All fluoride dentifrice's work effectively to fight plaque and cavities and clean and polish tooth enamel. Your denti-

frice brand should also bear the American Dental Association seal of approval on the container, which means that adequate evidence of safety and efficacy have been demonstrated in controlled, clinical trials. If your teeth are hypersensitive to hot or cold, consider trying toothpaste designed for sensitive teeth. Dentifrice containing baking soda and/or hydrogen peroxide give the teeth and mouth a clean, fresh, pleasant feeling that can offer an incentive to brush more, but fluoride is the true active ingredient at work in protecting your teeth. Some people prefer tartar control toothpaste containing pyrophosphates to prevent the build up of soft calculus deposits on their teeth. New pastes offer advanced whitening formulas aimed at safely removing stains to make teeth brighter and shinier, although they can't nearly match the effectiveness of a professional bleaching formula administered or prescribed by a dentist.

#### How much dentifrice should I use?

Contrary to what toothpaste commercials show, the amount of paste or gel needed on your brush for effective cleaning does not have to be a heaping amount. Simply squeeze on a pea-sized dab of paste on the top half of your brush. If you brush correctly holding the brush at a 45-degree angle and brush inside, outside and between your teeth, the paste should cover all of your teeth. Children under six, however, should be given a very small, baby pea-sized dab of dentifrice on their brush.

#### Is brushing with toothpaste enough to fight cavities and gum disease?

No. Although brushing thoroughly after each meal helps, flossing your teeth every day to remove plaque and food particles between teeth and at the gumline is just as important. Studies show that plaque will regrow on teeth that are completely clean within three to four hours of brushing.



# Taking time to make a difference

by 1st Lt. Daniel Curtis  
1st battalion, 12th Infantry

For the second straight year, Company A, 4th Engineer Battalion, has paired with the Colorado Springs YMCA to sponsor a week long summer camp for boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 7. In an effort to further relations between the Army and the surrounding community, 12 soldiers from Co. A volunteered their time to mentor children from Colorado Springs for a week of fun July 10 through 14.

Each summer the YMCA gives 50 to 60 children the opportunity to attend a weeklong summer camp. Each soldier leads five children through daily events and acts as big brother or sister to the children. The time spent with the soldiers gives the children an opportunity to break out of their daily routine and participate in activities with children their own age.

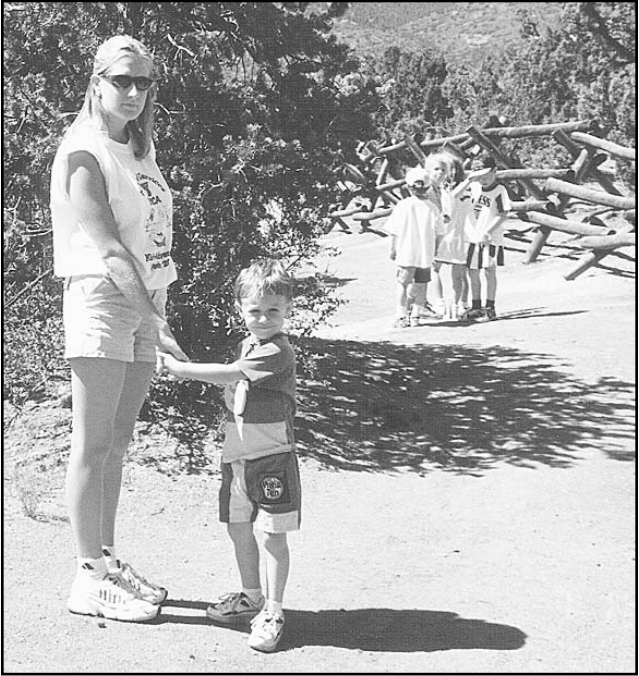
The itinerary for the week takes the children to various local attractions. Each day started at 9 a.m. and ended at 4:30 p.m. On July 10, the children visited the Starsmore Discovery Center and went swimming at Sierra High School. July 11, they went to Golf and Games and later swam at the Fountain swimming pool. A visit to Pueblo Zoo was the highlight of July 12. On July 13, the children and volun-

teers hiked through Garden of the Gods, afterwards cooling off at the Fountain swimming pool. The group visited Shady Brook Camp for group activities and capped off the week's festivities with a post camp party at Jose Muldoon's July 14.

Sergeant Shane Dorais of Co. A, after being asked why he volunteered for a second summer, smiled and said, "I love being with the children. It is great seeing them smile."

For many of the soldiers, it is a great chance to be a mentor to someone who may not have one. For the rest, it is simply a way to show the children that there are people who care. "Some of these children do not have many friends or are not the most popular children in school. This gives us a chance to show them that they are very special and someone cares about them," said Sgt. 1st Class David Devers of the camp program.

The soldiers enjoy taking time out of their hectic training schedule to work with the children and show the community the Army is here to support it. It is a great opportunity for Fort Carson to improve upon what already is an outstanding relationship with Colorado Springs. For more information on the YMCA Summer Camp Program, call 471-9790.



Courtesy photo

**Children from the YMCA program were escorted by volunteer soldiers from 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, during a weeklong summer camp.**

## National Night Out 2000

### Community Oriented Police Section

The 17th Annual National Night Out is Aug. 1. The National Night Out is one night out of the year that is put aside to promote crime and drug awareness. This is the one evening of the year that communities and local police departments all over the nation show their support in stopping the spread of crime and drugs.

National Night Out was started by the National Town Watchers Association executive Matt A. Peskin

in 1984 to heighten awareness and strengthen participation in local anticrime efforts. Peskin found that in a typical crime watch community, only 5 to 7 percent of the residents were participating. To raise this percentage, he formed a national program, coordinated by local crime prevention agencies that would involve entire communities. It is estimated that more than 31 million people in more than 9,400 communities from all 50 states will take part in this years event.

In support of National Night Out, the Provost Marshal's Office and Army Community Service have put together an event from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Fort

Carson Outdoor Pool. Entrance is free, and food will be provided at no cost. There will be guest speakers and demonstrations from the Provost Marshal's office and from the Pacific Warrior Dojo, including a bicycle rodeo and fingerprinting of children. McGruff, the Crime Dog, will also be there. There will be a glow stick walk back to the housing area. After returning home, continue to support National Night Out by leaving your porch lights on, locking your doors and being out and about with your neighbors in your surrounding community. For more information, contact the C.O.P.S. representative at 526-4887.

# Spiritual Fitness Week kicks off next week

**Command Chaplains Office**  
A family is a community of persons from which we find acceptance and the support to live out our convictions. Many times, family is a group of individuals who are very different from us, but from which we share those same needs for love and friendship. The Army lifestyle poses many challenges to the traditional model of a family, but it also challenges those of us who must find that community we call “family” while in the military.

This year, the last week of July is designated as our Spiritual Fitness Week. In recognition of the many types of “families” at Fort Carson, the theme for Spiritual Fitness Week is “A Family Celebration.” One of the goals of A Family Celebration is to support the spiritual needs of military families and nurture a sense of belonging in our chapel congregations.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Wilkes, Deputy Command Chaplain, said “the chapel family is the

spiritual glue which holds our community together. Our chapel programs are where we focus on religious education, worship, make friends and extend the hand fellowship and encouragement.”

One of the events supporting the military family is a workshop and luncheon for parents with children who have Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The split session workshop with a luncheon will be hosted at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Susan Moyer from Army Community Services is the guest speaker.

In recognition of Fort Carson’s chapel family, A Family Celebration hosts two nightly services Friday and Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. Retired Chaplain (Col.) Chuck Adams is the guest speaker for both services. Adams currently serves with the International Bible Society. He has many fond memories from serving as a chaplain at Fort Carson. His experiences with military families

endears him to address the spiritual and family needs of the Fort Carson community.

A Family Celebration concludes July 30 with an all-day picnic at Ironhorse Park.

The picnic commemorates the 225th Anniversary of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps.

The day’s events begin with a mass at Soldier’s Memorial Chapel at 9:30 a.m. and a combined protestant service at 10 a.m. at Ironhorse Park’s amphitheater. The picnic lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. and will be followed with two concerts featuring Fort Carson’s very own “The Rock Service Band.”

The afternoon’s events will include games for the family, a magic show for children and a dunking booth for the brave at heart.

For more information about Spiritual Fitness Week, contact your unit’s chaplain or call Chap. (Capt.) William Lovell at 524-1483.

## Spiritual Fitness Week Schedule

**Wednesday**  
11 a.m. to noon  
Session One — Parents of Children with ADD/ADHD  
Noon Lunch Provided  
1 to 2 p.m.  
Session Two — Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel  
child care provided

**Thursday**  
8 to 10 a.m. Ministry Team  
Spiritual Sustainment Training, Spiritual Fitness Center

**Friday and Saturday**  
7 to 9 p.m.  
Worship Service at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel  
Speaker: Chaplain (Col., Retired) Chuck Adams, child care provided

**Sunday**  
“Fort Carson Community Celebration”  
Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m., Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel, child care provided  
Protestant Service, 10 a.m., Ironhorse Amphitheater  
Picnic 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Games, presentations and music.  
(In case of inclement weather, the picnic will be held at the Post Field House)

# TriCare as Medicare supplemental

## The Retired Officers Association

Many members who have had problems with TriCare as a second payer to other insurance speculate the same problems would carry over to the Warner-Hutchinson proposal to make TriCare a second-payer to Medicare. Others suspect it would be of little use to them, since their doctor doesn't accept TriCare.

But the senators and staffers behind the proposal (who are intimately familiar with past TriCare woes), say this initiative is being designed as a true — and premium free — supplemental to Medicare.

We believe their intentions are sincere. Here's how they're answering some of the questions being raised about the proposal:

**What does "second payer" mean?** For members enrolled in Medicare Part B, TriCare would be modified into a true supplemental to Medicare that would pay the full Medicare copay for beneficiaries using Medicare providers. For instance, if the Medicare-allowed doctor bill is \$100, Medicare pays \$80, and TriCare would pay the other \$20. In some cases, the law allows providers to charge up to 115 percent of the Medicare — allowable charge (\$115 in this example). In such cases, TriCare would pay the \$35 difference. Past TriCare legislation hasn't required this kind of interaction with other insurance, but the Warner-Hutchinson language aims to solve that problem.

**What if my doctor doesn't accept TriCare (and won't file the TriCare claim)?** In the worst case, beneficiaries would have to pay the doctor the Medicare copayment up front and file the claim with TriCare themselves. But TriCare would reimburse the full copay (as long as the member used a Medicare provider) and the claim form is only about one-half of a page. If this works as envisioned, would it be worth the extra paperwork to save \$2,000 or more a

year on supplemental premiums? The TROA believes most members would think so.

**But isn't TriCare claims processing notoriously slow?** TriCare has improved its record somewhat, but significant problems certainly remain. Pentagon officials are seeking to get around that problem for the Medicare supplemental. TriCare claims are slow, mainly because of DOD requirements to adjudicate the claim i.e., validate allowable amounts, check providers' TriCare status, etc.). But for Medicare-eligibles, Medicare does the adjudication. This should streamline the TriCare supplemental payment process, making payments virtually automatic once Medicare approves the claim. With that simpler process, the Pentagon is looking at a one-stop electronic claims processing system for TriCare-as-second-payer-to-Medicare beneficiaries. If this works, it may convince more providers to accept TriCare.

**Why should retirees buy a "pig in a poke"?** They won't have to. Under the Warner-Hutchinson proposal, implementation would take effect Oct. 1, 2001. In the meantime, a test of the new TriCare supplemental to Medicare concept recently began at two sites. There's no new claims processing system yet, but we should have preliminary indications later this year on how well TriCare covers test enrollees' Medicare copays.

While the initiative doesn't provide any FEHBP option, we believe it is a sincere effort to deliver Medicare-eligibles a virtually free Medicare supplemental. If experience shows the TriCare supplemental is not working in some areas, this will strengthen our case for an FEHBP option.

Further, this initiative would establish in statute the principle of free lifetime health care for all current and future Medicare-eligible retirees.

## New surgeon general of the Army nominated

### Army News Service

**FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas** — A former infantry officer and graduate of the United States Military Academy, Maj. Gen. James B. Peake, has been nominated by President Bill Clinton for promotion to lieutenant general and appointment as the 40th surgeon general of the U.S. Army and commander of the U.S. Army Medical Command.

Pending Senate approval, Peake will replace Lt. Gen. Ronald R. Blanck, who retired from active duty June 30 after 31 years of service and nearly four years as the Army's "top doc."

Peake, who was named acting MEDCOM commander June 9, served in a dual position as commander of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and commander of Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for the past four years.

A St. Louis native, Peake received his bachelor of science degree from West Point in 1966 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry.

Following service in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Silver Star, a Bronze Star with "V" device and the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Peake entered medical school at Cornell University in New York. He was awarded a medical doctorate in 1972.

Also included in his awards and decorations are the Superior Service Medal; the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf clusters; the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters; and an Air Medal. Peake also wears a Combat Infantryman Badge and a Combat Medic Badge.

Peake and his wife, Janice, have two children, Kimberly and Thomas.



Chaplain’s Corner

Commentary by Chap. (Maj.) John L. Akins  
10th Special Forces Group

I received this story from a friend. It raises several questions I will ask at the end.

About 10 years ago, a young and very successful executive named Josh was traveling down a Chicago neighborhood street. He was going a bit too fast in his sleek, black, 12-cylinder Jaguar XKE, which was only two months old. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no child darted out, but a brick sailed out and — WHUMP! It smashed into the Jag’s shiny black side door!

SCREECH...!!!!

Brakes slammed, gears ground into reverse, and tires madly spun the Jaguar back to the spot where the brick had been thrown. Josh jumped out of the car, grabbed the kid and pushed him up against a parked car. He shouted at the kid, “What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing?” Building up a head of steam, he went on. “That’s my new Jag, that brick you threw is gonna cost you a lot of money. Why did you throw it?”

“Please, mister, please ... I’m sorry! I didn’t know what else to do!” pleaded the youngster. “I threw the brick because no one else would stop!” Tears were dripping down the boy’s chin as he pointed around the parked car. “It’s my brother, mister,” he said. “He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can’t lift him up.” Sobbing, the boy asked the executive, “Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He’s hurt and he’s too heavy for me.”

Moved beyond words, the young executive tried desperately to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. Straining, he lifted the young man back into the wheelchair and took out his handkerchief and wiped the scrapes and cuts, checking to see that everything was going to be OK. He then watched the younger brother push the chair toward their home. It was a long walk back to the sleek, black, shining, 12-cylinder Jaguar XKE — a long and slow walk. Now, Josh never did fix the side door of his Jaguar. He kept the dent to remind him not to go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at him to get his attention.

Matthew 6:33 states, “But seek first his kingdom

and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Bricks could be anything God uses to get someone’s attention. The following are several questions you may ask yourself:

- 1. Does God have to use bricks to get my attention?
- 2. Does my spouse have to use bricks to get my attention?
- 3. Do my children have to use bricks to get my attention?

Bricks could be God’s method for encouraging you to examine your spiritual fitness.

Spiritual fitness means aligning your priorities with God’s priorities. Spiritual fitness means seeing your life in God’s perspective. Spiritual fitness means preparing beforehand for anything that life might throw your way. Spiritual fitness means seeking God first and letting him guide your life from there.

It is easy to lose our perspective in life. If God has used a brick experience to get your attention, heed his warning. Take time this week to assess and work on your spiritual fitness. Allow God to help you put things in his perspective.

## Chapel

**GriefShare — Grief Recovery Support Group** — Wednesdays 6 to 8 p.m., Family Readiness Center, building 1526. GriefShare is a weekly support group for people grieving the death of someone close. At GriefShare, attendees learn valuable information that will help them through this difficult time in their lives. For information call Sabine at 526-6917.

**Spiritual Fitness Week — July 24 to 30 — “A Family Celebration”**— Monday 7 to 9 p.m., Creative Parenting; Wednesday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Parents of Children with Attention Deficit Disorder/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Friday and Saturday 7 to 9 p.m. Spiritual Emphasis — Retired Col. Chuck Adams, featured speaker. All events will be at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel and child care will be provided. Sunday — Ecumenical Service and family picnic at Iron Horse Park. For information contact Chap. William Lovell at 524-1483.

**Protestant Sunday School** — Protestant Sunday School for all ages is conducted Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel, building 1500, at the corner of Nelson and Martinez Streets. Summer sessions feature a mixed age group time of music, stories and video tapes. Parents are welcome to attend with their children or may attend an adult class.

**Protestant Youth of the Chapel** — The PYOC meets Sunday at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. Weekly groups meetings have taken on the name EDGE (Every Day God Experience). Come join the fun by attending any Sunday evening. For information contact John Spencer at 471-9239.

**Protestant Women of the Chapel** — PWOC meets each week for prayer, fellowship and study at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel. PWOC meets two times during the week — Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Child care is available at the chapel. For information contact Jennifer Wake at 540-9157.

## Chapel Schedule

ROMAN CATHOLIC					
Day	Time	Service	Chapel	Location	Contact Person
M-W-F	8:15 a.m.	Mass	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Vakoc/526-5769
M-W-F	11:45 a.m.	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7386
Saturday	5 p.m.	Mass	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Vakoc/526-5769
Sunday	8 a.m.	Mass	Veterans’	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Vakoc/526-5769
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Mass	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Vakoc/526-5769
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	CCD	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Ms. Feldman/526-0478
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7386
Sunday	12:15 p.m.	Mass	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Vakoc/526-5769
EASTERN ORTHODOX					
Sunday	8 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Olson/526-5772
LUTHERAN					
Sunday	10:40 a.m.	Liturgical	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Brock/526-4416
CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN					
Thursday	7 p.m.	The “ROCK” Service	Spiritual Fitness Center	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Thornton/526-1374
PROTESTANT					
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Chap. Slossen/526-7387
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Pacania/526-4416
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Protestant	Veterans’	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Atkins/524-1822
Sunday	11 a.m.	Protestant	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Wilkes/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Prot./Gospel	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Pair/526-2811
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Dr. Scheck/526-5626
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Pair/526-2811
Sunday	10:15 a.m.	Sun. School	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Pacania/526-4416
Sunday	6:30 p.m.	PYOC	Soldiers’	Nelson & Martinez	Mr. Spencer/526-5229

For additional information, contact the Installation Chaplain’s Office, building 6227, at 526-5209. For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2636. Normally, free child care is available during on-post worship services.

### Daily Bible Readings

In order to assist in regular scripture reading, the following scriptures are recommended. These scriptures are part of the common daily lectionary which is designed to present the entire Bible over a three-year cycle.

- Saturday — Psalms 48 & 2 Kings 13-15
- Sunday — Psalms 49 & 2 Kings 16-18
- Monday — Psalms 50 & 2 Kings 19-22
- Tuesday — Psalms 51 & 2 Kings 23-25
- Wednesday — Psalms 52 & 1 Chronicles 1-5
- Thursday — Psalms 53 & 1 Chronicles 6-10
- Friday — Psalms 54 & 1 Chronicles 11-15



# Military

## Longknife Squadron takes to the Bosnian skies for aerial gunnery

by Capt. Emily Cavaco

Task Force Eagle Joint Visitor's Bureau

The Glamoc Range in northwestern Bosnia-Herzegovina is alive with the sounds of aerial fires, as 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, takes to the air for gunnery operations this month. The Longknife Squadron, which deployed to Bosnia in February, is breaking the mid-deployment monotony by putting some rounds down-range. The unit brought approximately two-thirds of its aircraft to Bosnia to support reconnaissance, security and air transportation missions throughout the country as part of the Stabilization Forces 7 peacekeeping force.

Along with the crews, the AH-64 Apaches, UH-60 Black Hawks, OH-58D Kiowa Warriors are all part of the gunnery exercise this summer. Apaches and Kiowas move through the gunnery range as scout weapons teams, which are teams of two that include one aircraft of each type. This lethal aerial combat team contributes combined fires on the battlefield that include the 30 mm cannon, Hellfire Missile, and 50 Caliber Machine Gun. The Squadron's UH-60 Black Hawks fire gunnery by qualifying the on-board crew chiefs in the door-mounted M60 Machine Guns. Longknife Squadron provides lethal and responsive fires for Multinational Division-North and for the SFOR commander.

While the Squadron's presence in Bosnia contributes to a safe and secure environment in the Balkans, many of the daily missions can become somewhat monotonous.

Aircrews said that monotony should not be misinterpreted as boring. Both pilots and aircraft maintainers work long hours every day to keep things moving as they should be on Comanche Base. While commanders and noncommissioned officers work hard to keep monotony from seeping

into the daily routines of their aircrews, soldiers of the 4th Squadron say they are luckier than most. The ability to fly over the countryside to new places, see new people and witness the war's impact on the country keeps complacency at bay.

Aside from beating the daily grind, there is another reason to complete an aerial gunnery in a peacekeeping environment. In addition to challenging the soldiers of Longknife Squadron to refocus on a new and different mission, Lt. Col. Michael Karr, commander, 4th Squadron, says that gunnery is a task the unit needs to complete regardless of its location.

"Gunnery supports our mission essential tasks that we are required to do, whether we are back at home station, deployed as peacekeepers or supporting a wartime mission," he said.

This gunnery gave Longknife troopers a chance for some healthy competition, too. Squadron scout and attack crews were tested on their ability to rehash book knowledge on subjects ranging from airspace controls to their aircraft's emergency procedures and given a separate test on vehicle identification. All four aviators in the scout weapons teams were graded as a team, putting a little bit of pressure on each pilot to up his or her scores on the two exams.

Where gunnery crews typically fight for their scores based on the targets they hit, this gunnery was different. Crews were also graded on their ability to plan, brief, rehearse and execute the mission. The design of the range was also unique, lending a more realistic touch to the training. Scenarios included ground observers from U.S. Special Forces and Nordpol Battle Group who assisted pilots in identifying and designating targets. Crews were also given a set of guidelines allowing each scout weapons team the ability to use their own techniques in engaging targets.

"The key to success in this gunnery exercise was working as a team," said Capt. Doug Hooks, Quicksilver Troop Commander and Apache pilot.

These unique aspects of the training, as well as the requirement for both scout and attack crews to work together, was hailed as the biggest benefit of the training from aircrews and commanders.

"This was the first chance that Kiowa and Apache crews have trained together during a live-fire exercise since I've been in this unit," said Chief Warrant Officer Keith Roy, Kiowa Warrior aviator.

When asked about the challenges of the gunnery, leaders and maintainers alike agree that keeping up with operational missions in country, while supporting the additional task of gunnery was the biggest challenge.

Specialist Bryan Kwan, Black Hawk crew chief, Stetson Troop, said, "It was good training because we got to complete slingload missions, fly goggles and conduct airspace surveillance, but it also made us work hard keeping aircraft maintenance up around the clock."

Karr is quick to note that the efforts of crew chiefs and aircraft maintainers "were absolutely critical throughout the entire operation." He said, "They were at their peak levels of performance this month, but that's just something they do for us

everyday."

The Squadron's assistant operations officer for the event, Capt. Mike Mora, said that the biggest challenge for the gunnery also resulted in the biggest success of the event.

While maintaining operations at Comanche, the unit used Black Hawks to slingload all required equipment to and from the range on a daily basis.

Despite the challenges, soldiers from Stetson Troop and the planning staff all say this was exactly what made the training exceptional. Staff Sgt. Sullivan, platoon sergeant, Headhunter Troop's III/V platoon, the unit responsible for ensuring that all crews have fuel and ammunition for their gunnery missions on a daily basis, agrees with Mora.

"The special twist to this gunnery was the slingload training," said Sullivan. "Now each section in the platoon is capable of air movement to any location to set up refueling and re-arming operations. This is a great thing, because our ability to get anywhere at anytime is important. Without ammo and fuel, pilots are nothing but pedestrians."

As gunnery training comes to a halt this week, Karr summarizes the benefit of this training for the squadron.

"The success of this gunnery training was that it built self-confidence and promoted teamwork within the Squadron, and increased the proficiency of our pilots, soldiers and leaders in the process" he said.

With the close of the exercise, unit planners turn their focus to re-deployment, an event that soldiers and their families having been awaiting for some time. Longknife Squadron will begin sending soldiers home in late September.



Courtesy photos

**Armament technicians Sgt. Palmer and Sgt. Reynolds load an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior with .50 Cal machine gun rounds in the FARP.**



**First Lt. Jay Parker, platoon leader, Longknife Squadron, 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, reviews his notes during his team's walk-through rehearsal.**



**An AH-64 Apache completes refueling at the Forward Area Refueling Point.**

# Cadets introduced to the Army

by 2nd Lt. Chris Roth  
Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th  
Infantry

Recently, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, received additional personnel who were neither enlisted soldiers nor officers, but were West Point Cadets.

These six future officers arrived May 31 to participate in Cadet Troop Leadership Training, one of their required summer details. Their stay with the Warrior Battalion unit continued through June 30th. Of these six cadets, two were attached to Company A, the Hellraisers, one each to Company B, the Bulldogs, and Company C, the Renegades and two to Headquarters, Headquarters Company, the Yard Dogs.

Their role was to shadow their assigned platoon leaders, participate in the leadership as much as possible and have fun. The Warriors were deployed to Pinon Canyon when the cadets arrived. This provided a great opportunities to learn about Mechanized Infantry while they were on their CTLT rotation. “The experience I gained through my two weeks at Pinon Canyon outweighed my previous three years at West Point,” said Cadet Richard Bardsley, a senior from Denver. “Being a Bradley commander, a gunner and dismounted rifleman allowed me to see all realms of a mechanized unit.” Ironically for Bardsley, his assignment to Co. A was a personal and special event, as his father had been its commander from 1972 to

1973. For Cadet Bardsley and his fellow classmates, the experience they received by participating and listening to the communications during the battle was invaluable. Upon redeployment, the cadets were able to witness the After Operations/Recovery of war fighting. They took part in cleaning weapons and gear and observed how the Bradley Fighting Vehicles were cleaned by means of the battalion’s and division’s wash racks.

“I was impressed by the division wash rack. I expected a large car wash,” said Cadet Travis Cole, another native of Denver and a junior.

He added “It was good to see how the NCOs and enlisted men got to work and handled their everyday duties without very much supervision.”

Supervising and inspecting was not as fun for the cadets as the field, but witnessing the maintenance was a good experience.

Cadets thought their time with 1st Bn., 12th Inf., was one of the best experiences of their budding military careers. Not only did this experience help them receive a better understanding of the daily workings of an active duty unit but it also reinforced their desire to join the infantry when they receive their commissions as second lieutenants.



Courtesy Photo  
Second Lt. Peter Werner, right, shows Cadet Travis Cole where Gunnery takes place.



# Take a stand for homeless veterans

by **Major Michelle McKenna**  
**U.S. Army Garrison**

On Wednesday, July 26, 2000, the El Paso County Homeless Veterans Coalition will sponsor the 2nd Annual Homeless Veteran Stand Down. An all-day event, the Stand Down is designed to provide the veterans with needed supplies and services, and raise the consciousness of veterans' organizations, active duty military, and the local community on the situation. The Stand Down is being staffed by volunteers from local veterans organizations, active duty military, and Horizons 26, a local leadership training group sponsored by Rising Star Communications of Colorado.

The Stand Down begins downtown at 10 a.m., at VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak, where registration, clothing and supply issue, medical treatment, and referrals to other agencies will occur. Each veteran will be escorted through the various stations by a volunteer. Then, they will be escorted to VFW Post 101, 702 S. Tejon, for lunch and benefits counseling. "Stand downs" originated when exhausted com-

bat units were moved from the battleground to a safe place for respite. Today, a "stand-down" refers to a community-based intervention program designed to help homeless veterans whose "battlefront" is now a life on the streets. About one third of the adult homeless population are veterans. As many as 250,000 veterans are living on the street or in shelters each day. Perhaps twice as many experience homelessness each year.

The importance of getting support from active duty military was emphasized by Bob Mobley, member of the Homeless Coalition, and Stand Down organizer.

"Traditionally there hasn't been a real understanding by other vets and active duty military of what these guys have been through, and there has been a rift between the communities," said Mobley. This a chance for them each to see each other in a different way, and honor their common service."

Donna Pearce, a member of Horizons 26 and Air Force Reservist, commented that, "This event really captures what our leadership training has been about.

The training program was founded by a Vietnam vet, and has been supported by numerous veterans and military. To make a part of our leadership training honoring those who have served is a great way for us to give back."

Horizons 26 will be honoring the veterans by interviewing them about their military service and creating a heroes board with photographs and military biographies. They are looking for active duty military to assist in the interviews to ensure the military information is recorded accurately. The interviews will occur as veterans are being escorted through the stations (approximaely a 30-45 minute process).

Stand Down volunteers are needed on Wednesday for set-up (8-10 a.m.); Tour One (10 a.m.-1 p.m.); Tour Two (1 p.m.-5 p.m.); and Tour Three (5 p.m.-Clean up is over). Volunteers should contact Major Michelle McKenna at 526-3886, or mckennam@carson.army.mil. Those interested in serving on the El Paso County or Pueblo Homeless Veterans Coalitions should contact Bob Mobley at 327-5697.

## Warrior Battalion prepares for National Training Center Rotation

by **Lt. Paul Staeheli**  
**1st Battalion, 12th Infantry**

1st Battalion, 12th Infantry has been in a flurry of work the past few weeks in preparation for its upcoming National Training Center rotation in September and October. Preparations began with a Pinon Canyon rotation in May and will continue with the upcoming July and August gunnery.

During the Pinon Canyon rotation, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, and the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment played Opposition Forces and lane evaluators. The

exercise was designed to simulate the NTC, as well as provide the evaluators a chance to impart lessons learned from their previous rotation. The hot dusty conditions, as well as the stiff resistance put up by the OPFOR, brought 1st Bn., 12th Inf. one step closer to success at the NTC.

Pinon Canyon has been followed by a series of qualification exercises. All soldiers are refining their individual skills through qualification on their individual weapon. Warrior Battalion soldiers have spent numerous hours conducting preliminary

marksmanship instruction, a squad weapons skills test and a Bradley gunnery skills test in order to ensure success on the range and future exercises.

Once soldiers have qualified on their individual weapon and are confident in their ability to place it into operation, they begin to integrate maneuver into the equation. Soldiers are required to complete a live-fire range at individual, buddy team, fire team and squad level. This training provides soldiers and

See NTC, Page 18

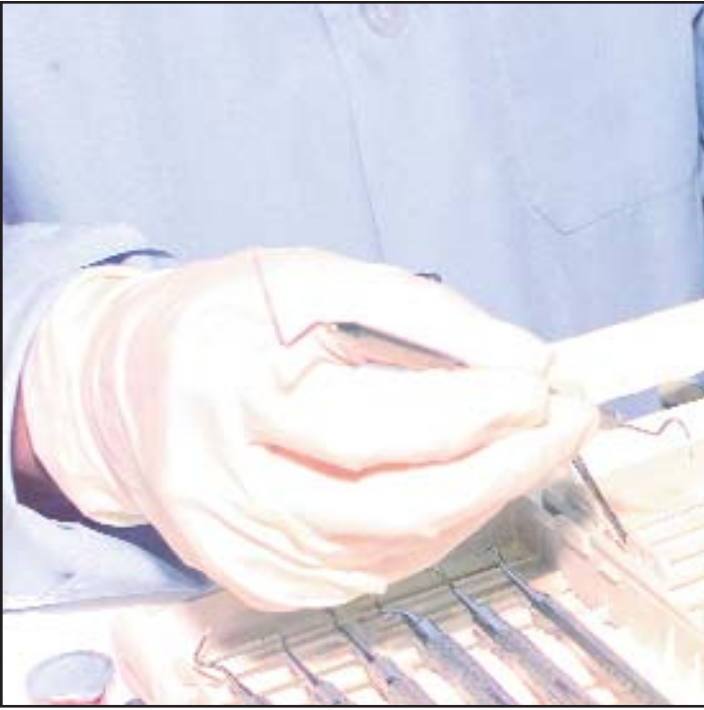




Captain John Shillingburg, dental resident, applies a filling for Sgt. Franklin Lewis at Larson Dental Clinic July 17.



Pieces of the Berlin Wall are part of one employee's rock collection in the clinic. The rocks were collected by Fort Carson soldiers during missions.



A dental hygienist prepares her tools for a dental procedure every six months.



Soldiers arriving at Fort Carson make follow-up appointments after clinic in-processing.



Shelby Lynn Taylor, medical and office assistant clerk, pulls a patient's file.





A portrait of Col. Harold R. Larson, the clinic's namesake, hangs in the main corridor.



cleaning. Soldiers are to have their teeth cleaned



from among the 6,500 files in the clinic.



Sergeant Lloyd Delgado gets his teeth cleaned at Larson Dental Clinic. The procedure usually takes 20 to 30 minutes.

## Larson serves Carson soldiers for 21 years

Story and photos by Spc. Bryan Beach  
14th Public Affairs Detachment

When someone thinks of a dental clinic, the sights and sounds of picks and drills often fill the brain. In fact, most soldiers try to avoid the dental clinics as much as possible. When soldiers do have to go, they can't get out of the door fast enough. But, if they were to hang around a few minutes, they'd learn there is more to a dental clinic than root canals and a biannual cleaning. People who work there are full of stories and smiles. Larson Dental Clinic is one such example.

Larson Dental Clinic was dedicated July 25, 1979, and named in honor of Col. Harold R. Larson, an Army dentist who died of leukemia while serving at the Air Force Academy on the Department of Defense's Medical Evaluation Board.

Since the dedication in 1979, the clinic has seen literally hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

"Our mission includes supporting approximately 6,400 permanent party soldiers assigned to Fort Carson," said Col. David A. Witwer, officer in charge of the dental clinic. "We also support the in-processing center for all soldiers arriving to Fort Carson."

The clinic also gets involved with deploying National Guard and reserve soldiers who have serious dental problems.

"Any soldier, active or reserve, who has what we call a Class 3 or Class 4 condition is non-deployable. It is our job to get them back in shape," said Witwer.

Apart from the mission of the dental clinic, there are the people themselves.

Peggy Kelley, X-ray assistant, has been working at Larson since 1988. If you've ever had an X-ray taken there, then she is probably the one who made it. The next time you're sitting in the X-ray chair waiting to have your teeth's picture taken, take a moment to look around her office. You should notice two things right off. First, on the bulletin board is the question, "Are you pregnant?" written in more than 80 languages. Second, a glass case houses a non-descript rock collection.

"The 'question' started years ago," explains Kelley. "Back when we used to treat family members, we would have a lot of spouses come in who were from Korea. So, I asked a friend who knew Korean to write the question for me in Korean. Then a family member who was German came in and wrote the question for me in German. It went on from there."

According to Kelley, the rock collection began when one soldier told her he was going on a deployment. She off-handily said, "Bring me a rock back." He did. So did others. Before she knew it, she had little rocks from all over the world. A little stone from Dachau WW II German concentration camp, a piece of the Berlin wall, a pebble from a cobblestone road that goes into Prague and even one "airborne rock" which went with a soldier on a jump into Taiwan.

"What I like about these things is that it represents the diversity of the Army. The places, the languages and the people that make the Army so unique," said Kelley.

The workers at the clinic have many interesting stories. Like the specialist from Fiji who is a licensed dentist in his home country and joined the United States Army. Once he gets his citizenship, he hopes to receive a direct commission as a dental officer.

There is also the Health Professional Scholarship Program that Fort Carson Dental Activity takes part in. Recipients of the Army scholarship perform their junior/senior year clinical training in the field at one of six Army posts, of which Fort Carson is one. The dental students spend 21 days of their summer performing various clinic jobs.

"We try to rotate them through all the clinics here on post," said Maj. Joseph Vargas, Larson dentist and program coordinator. "This year we have five students coming through."

There is much more to a dental clinic than just drills and picks. The next time you're in the dental clinic, take a moment to look around and ask questions. There just might be an interesting story or two to hear.



# Anthrax vaccine in short supply

by Rudi Williams  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — DOD’s dwindling supply of anthrax vaccine has forced a temporary slow-down in inoculations, except to those personnel serving or about to serve in high-threat areas of Southwest Asia and South Korea, defense officials said during a July 11 Pentagon press conference.

Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Randy L. West, senior adviser to the deputy secretary of defense for chemical and biological protection, told reporters DOD has only about 160,000 doses of the vaccine on hand. He said DOD is trying to avoid suspending or shutting down the anthrax inoculation program.

What’s left of the vaccine is being largely reserved for the 10,000 DOD people “with boots on the ground” in Southwest Asia and 37,000 in South Korea, said Dr. J. Jarrett Clinton, first assistant to the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

For the time being, most personnel in those areas who have begun the six-shot series will stop the inoculations if they rotate out. West said DOD guidance allows for local commanders’ discretion, so, for instance, rotating soldiers might still get shots because the 10-dose vaccine vials can only be used or discarded once opened.

So far, 455,378 people have started vaccinations and have received a total of about 1.8 million shots. Some 56,725 have received all six shots, West said. During the slowdown, dosing will fall from about 75,000 vaccinations monthly to around 14,000. At that rate, DOD has enough vaccine to last up to 10 months, he estimated.

The mandatory six shots provide full protection

as required by the FDA, West noted. He pointed out that receiving fewer than six shots causes no damage or harm to individuals, but does mean they lack the additional immunity protection provided by the complete series.

Clinton said the first three shots are given in two-week intervals and the last three are six months apart. An annual booster shot keeps troops fully protected. Although a person gains some protection by the second or third shot, it takes the full six for full, sustained immunity, he said.

Persons who have started the series but not finished will only need to pick up where they left off, once their vaccinations resume, Clinton said. That’s the guidance, he said, of the Centers for Disease Control’s expert Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices.

West attributed the slowdown to the inability of the sole contractor, Bioport of Lansing, Mich., to gain Food and Drug Administration approval for its production facility. He said immunizations will resume at full speed when the FDA approves and certifies a sufficient supply of vaccine as safe and effective, but he emphasized Bioport’s own timetable doesn’t call for its new vaccine to be available before the end of the year.

“We’re disappointed because we wish we were vaccinating the whole force now. We’re running about a year behind our planned schedule in this program,” West said.

“When we began the program, there was an existing supply and there was one company that had a license,” he noted. “In retrospect, I wish that we would have immediately advertised for a second

source. We did not. We recently have.” BioPort will-cooperate with that second-source contractor, he said, and according to the FDA that company could earn certification in two to four years.

He said Britain and Russia have anthrax vaccines, but neither has FDA approval. The British vaccine is similar to the U.S. vaccine, but also in limited supply, and DOD has no interest in the Russians’ live-bacteria vaccine, West noted.

The number of people who are refusing shots and the number of adverse reactions have declined, West noted.

“We’ve had 351 people that have refused to take the shot and have remained adamant enough about that to receive disciplinary action or be discharged or released from service,” he said. “There have been 848 Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System forms reviewed as of last month. That’s out of 1.8 million-plus shots.” He said 163 people have missed a day of work because of adverse reaction to the shots and 38 have been hospitalized.

He said intelligence reports indicate that the threat has increased since the anthrax vaccination program started in 1998.

“There has also been an increase in the number of both state actors and nonstate actors that have done things that have prompted our intelligence committee to believe they are trying to obtain the capability (for biological weapons).”

But, West emphasized, “We’re less at risk than we were in 1998, because we have more than 455,000 people that have some protection and 56,725 are fully protected. But we’re less protected than we want to be.”



# Things to know during moving time

by Sgt. Regina Bradley  
U.S. Army Garrison

In order to protect yourself and your household goods, you need to take an active interest in the inventory and the packing of your belongings. When the movers come and pack your items, they do not always list every item in your home on the inventory. You need to make sure that they list all of your high-dollar items with serial numbers and model numbers if possible. Take pictures or make a video of your property if you do not have receipts. This will help protect you if you need proof of ownership.

If you have expensive collectibles (i.e. Beanie Babies, Star Wars figurines or any other items that continue to increase in value and are hard to replace), jewelry or any other items that can not be replaced, you should consider carrying the items with you or sending them by some other method.

If you choose to have the movers pack these items (along with compact disks or videos) make a list of each item and have the carrier sign off on the list. Carriers often list CDs and videos as such, but you should list specific titles. If a video, for example, turns up missing, the Army can only pay for blank videos. Just remember your items are usually worth more to you than to someone else, so ensure you catalog CDs, videos and collectibles.

Obviously carriers do not always deliver everything they pack up. Make sure that the movers are not writing blanket exceptions or damages on your inventory. If they annotate damage to your furniture that does not exist, you need to let the carrier know so they can change it on the inventory. Writing excessive damages at the time of pick-up might bar

you from recovering for any damages the carrier may cause.

If a carrier is uncooperative or tries to bully you, please call Joint Personal Property Shipping Office (Transportation) at (719) 554-9291 and speak to a quality control representative if necessary.

Carriers use certain codes to annotate damage. There is a list of these codes located toward the top of the inventory sheet under the name area (i.e., sc = scratch, d = dented, g = gouged, so = soiled, etc.).

Knowing what to expect when your household goods are delivered will help you receive compensation for any damage or missing items. When your household goods are delivered the carrier will give you five copies of a two-sided pink form — the DD 1840/1840R (Notice of Loss or Damage). All damages noticed while the carrier is still at your residence should be noted on the DD 1840 side of the pink form. All damages should be listed with the name of the item, the inventory number and the exact damage. Items that are missing should also be noted on the DD 1840/1840R.

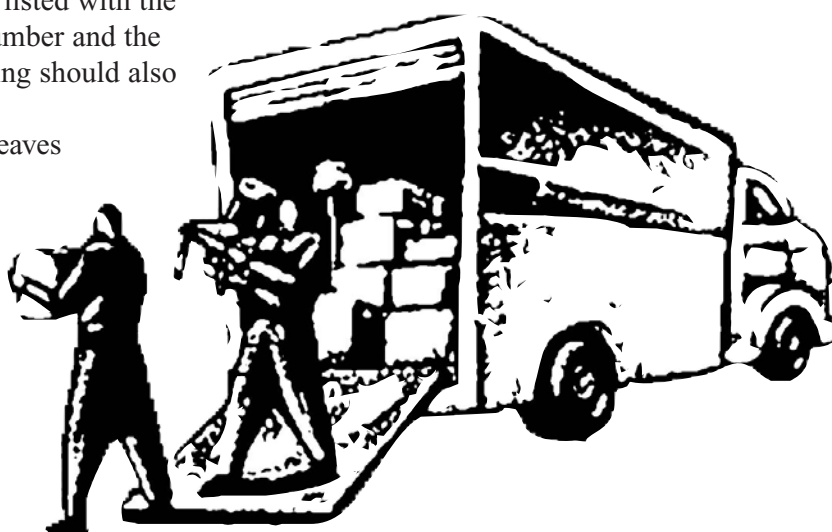
All damages after the carrier leaves your residence should be noted on the DD1840R side of the pink form. These forms should be in triplicate and you should flip the carbons so the carbons do not print through on the wrong side. It is extremely important to know that you must turn in the pink forms to the nearest Claims Office, on a military installation, within 70 days

from the date of delivery. If you do not turn these forms in within that time period you probably will not be paid.

Please do not throw anything away regardless of the amount of damage to the item. The claims office may want to inspect.

When you turn in the pink forms you will receive all of the additional claims paperwork you will need to fill out in order to complete your claim. You will have two years from the date of delivery to finish the additional paperwork. If you do not receive a copy of the DD 1840/1840R from the carrier, please notify the Claims Office at the nearest military installation immediately after delivery.

You may file claims at Fort Carson in the Claims Division of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 6285, phone 526-1355/1352.



Show me the money



Stewart

by Sgt. 1st Class  
John W. Stewart  
4th Finance Battalion

With today’s problems and family sizes, it is getting harder to make it on what the Army is paying. Consider the upcoming holidays, (are you saving for Christmas yet?), and you can add more to the mix. The

Army is working on the problem of pay, but they talk of the future; what we need now is to feed the family and keep a roof over their heads. Sometimes it is hard for the spouse to work and still make it after the childcare cost. Don’t jump ship yet — the commanders and your leaders want to help. If you are a squared-away soldier and need a second job to help

take care of your family or just need extra money, the first thing you need to do is talk to your leaders. Let them know what you are interested in doing, and that you would like the commander’s permission to have a second job.

The job market in Colorado Springs is good and the unemployment rate is low. Look in the paper for jobs that you are qualified for, call and check them out. The Family Readiness Center also has many pamphlets and information boards that tell you about businesses and the community, as well as family job assistance. There are also Non-Appropriated Fund jobs available on post and many of them coincide with soldiers’ off duty time. Your unit command financial noncommissioned officer has a lot of information available to help you with your job search.

If you can’t find a job in this area, then you haven’t been looking in the right places. Remember, if you’re looking for part-time employment, you

shouldn’t expect a \$20,000 a year position. There are however literally hundreds of jobs paying much better than minimum wage in the Colorado Springs area.

You should know that there are many places, like check writing services and car dealers, where you don’t want to work because of your relationship with other soldiers. You need to protect yourself from any conflict of interest problems. There are many hotels and restaurants that have well paying positions and they have flexible hours that help with the time frame you can work. Always remember that you are a soldier 24 hours a day, seven days a week and you represent all of us when you are out there working. Whether working, playing, or just having a good time think safety.

For more information on where the jobs are — see your unit command financial noncommissioned officer.

NTC  
From Page 13

squads the confidence to tackle larger obstacles, like a bunker, trench complex and integration of the squad into a rifle section.

The Bradley crews, after honing their skills in the Unit Conduct of Fire Training and completing BGST, begin their transition to live rounds with Table II Gunnery, which teaches rangemanship and crew coordination. Table VI follows certification on Table II and is the crew’s first chance to fire

live rounds from a defensive position. Upon completion, crews move to Table VII, which prepares them for the Table VIII Bradley Qualification Range.

When both the crews and rifle section have qualified, the two sections are integrated for platoon qualification or Table XII. Table XII allows battalion commanders a chance to assess their platoons combat readiness and

fighting capabilities. Once platoons have been certified by the battalion commander as combat ready, companies execute a combined arms live fire exercise or CALFEX.

A CALFEX combines a battalions external assets into one spectacular demonstration of firepower and coordinated maneuvers. The combination of an infantry battalion’s assets on the same field of battle to accomplish a

single mission is a major milestone in the preparation process. Preparation for the NTC is a long and arduous journey that requires excellence from the individual rifleman up to the battalion level. The series of exercises in increasing difficulty serve to train and build confidence at all levels. These preparations will set the battalion in position to achieve success at the NTC.



Dining Schedule

Weekday Dining Facilities

A La Carte Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mtn. Inn (building 1040)  
3rd ACR CAV House (building 2461)  
3rd BCT Iron Bde. (building 2061)  
Butts Army Airfield (building 9612)

Standard Facilities

10th Special Forces Group (building 7481)

Weekday Meal Hours

Mon., Tue., Wed. and Fri.	Thurs.
Breakfast 7:30 to 9 a.m.	5:30 to 7 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner 5 to 6:30 p.m.	4 to 5:30 p.m.

Week of July 22 to 28

Exceptions

- Butts Army Airfield Dining Facility is open for lunch only.
- 10th SFG (A) meal hours are the same Monday through Friday. It does not serve dinner on Fridays.
- Patton House Dining Facility is closed until September 11.
- Mountaineer Inn Dining Facility is closed until further notice.

Weekend Dining Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mtn. Inn (building 1040)  
3rd BCT Iron Bde. (building 2061)  
3rd ACR CAV House (building 2461)

Saturday Meal Hours

Breakfast	8 to 10 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner	4 to 6 p.m.

Sunday Brunch/Supper Meal Hours

Brunch	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Supper	3:30 to 6 p.m.

Family members are cordially invited to dine at Fort Carson dining facilities.



**Food Service NCO  
Category winners:**  
Sgt. Jackie Nance,  
64th CSB, 3rd BCT (pictured)  
**Runner-up:**  
Sgt. Harry Belfield,  
183rd Maint. Co., 43rd ASG

Installation NCO/Cook of the Quarter Competition

*The Directorate of Logistics Installation Food Service sergeant major conducted its Noncommissioned Officer/Cook of the third quarter, FY 2000 competition July 7. Food service personnel from several units represented the finest at Fort Carson. The president of the NCO/cook of the quarter board, Sgt. Maj. James C. Hurst said, “The questions are both MOS and non-MOS related, and the competition was keen.”*

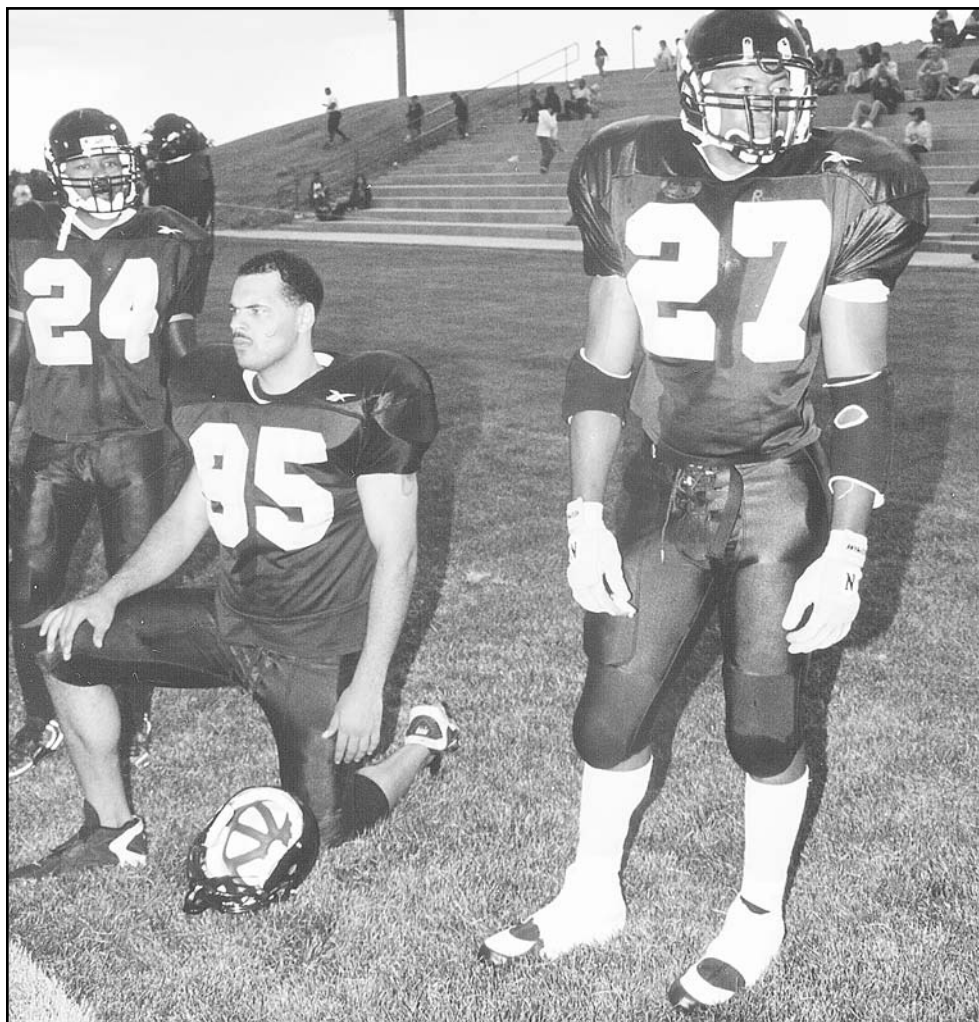
**Food Service Specialist  
Category winners:**  
Pfc. Cherie Duncan  
984th MP Co., 43rd ASG  
(pictured)  
**Runner-up:**  
Spc. Jason Lynch  
1st Bn., 12th Inf., 3rd BCT





# Sports & Leisure

## Generals, Flames renew family hostilities



Photos by Walt Johnson

**Fort Carson's Archie Bates (27) and his teammates reflect on the game just before kickoff Saturday night.**

**by Walt Johnson  
Mountaineer staff**

Nothing can bring out the excitement as well as two outstanding football teams lined up against each other, ready to do battle.

In Colorado Springs, the best two semi-pro football teams are the Colorado Springs Generals and Colorado Springs Flames.

Add to that the fact that each team has players from the Mountain Post playing for them and the intensity is double what it normally is.

Saturday, at the football stadium next to Sky Sox Stadium in Colorado Springs, the two teams met again for the first time since last year's playoffs when the Flames avenged a regular season loss to the Generals by beating them in the playoffs.

Last year, in the regular season, the Generals used their superior bulk advantage to beat the Flames easily. The Flames then turned the tables on the Generals in the playoffs, beating them in an upset that fueled the intensity of this rivalry.

Going into Saturday's game, the Generals again had a bulk advantage but the Flames narrowed the size difference significantly this year, so it was looking like a very competitive game.

Neither team could mount much offense on its first series and had to punt the ball to each other. First it was the Generals that couldn't produce any offense, then it was the Flames, as each team went out in three downs in their first possession. Then the first half of the game turned in the Generals' favor.

After the Flames were forced to

punt, their punter managed only a 10-yard punt that gave the Generals great field position. The Flames defense was backed up to its 30-yard line and they knew they had to dig in and stop the Generals from getting an early touch-down and early momentum.

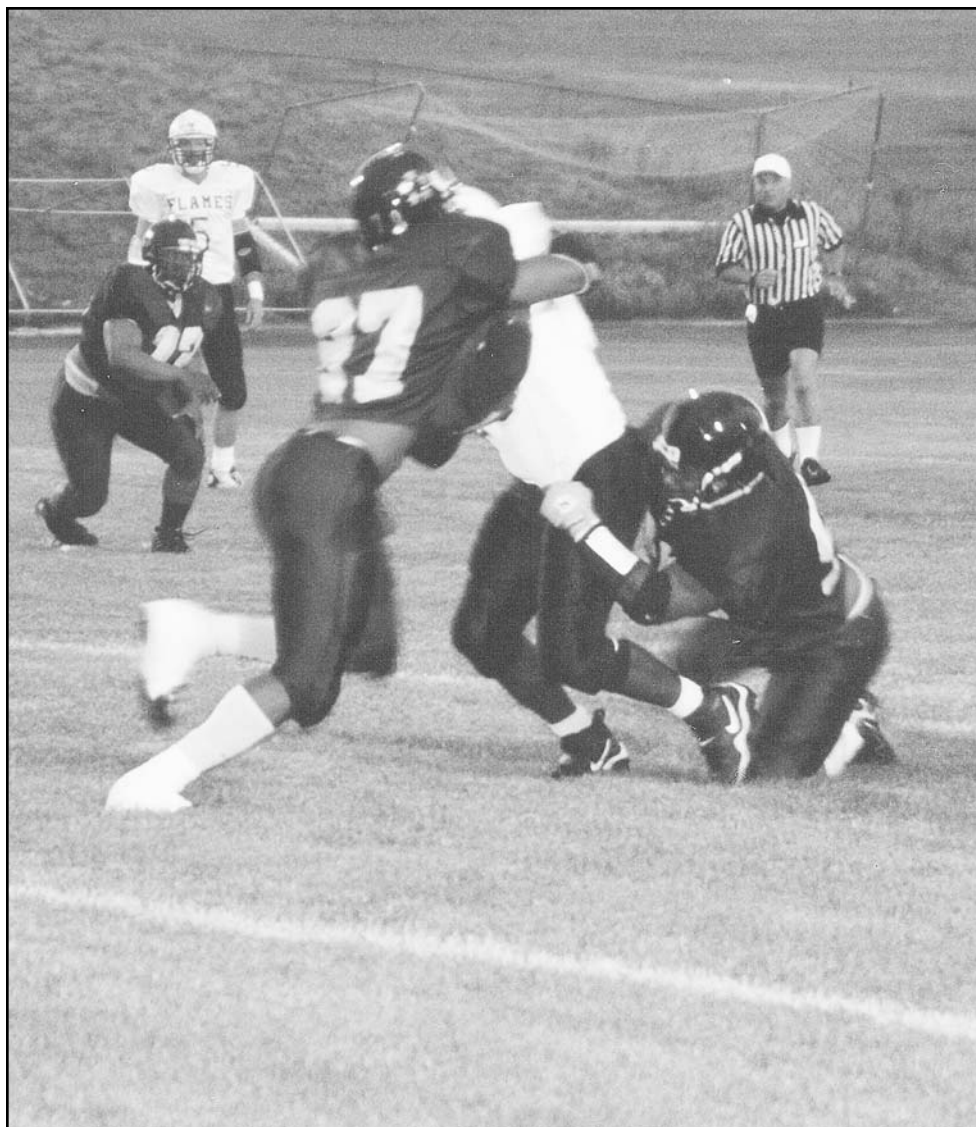
Fort Carson's Joseph Johnson, the Flames left defensive end, led the Flames defense that seemed to have the Generals stopped with out much penetration into the Flames territory. On third down from the 27 yard line, the Generals' quarterback was sacked while trying to pass. However, a personal foul penalty gave the Generals new life and they capitalized by scoring the game's first touchdown three plays after Johnson had to leave the game with a knee injury.

The Generals rode the momentum from that touchdown to a 13-0 halftime lead as they dominated defensively.

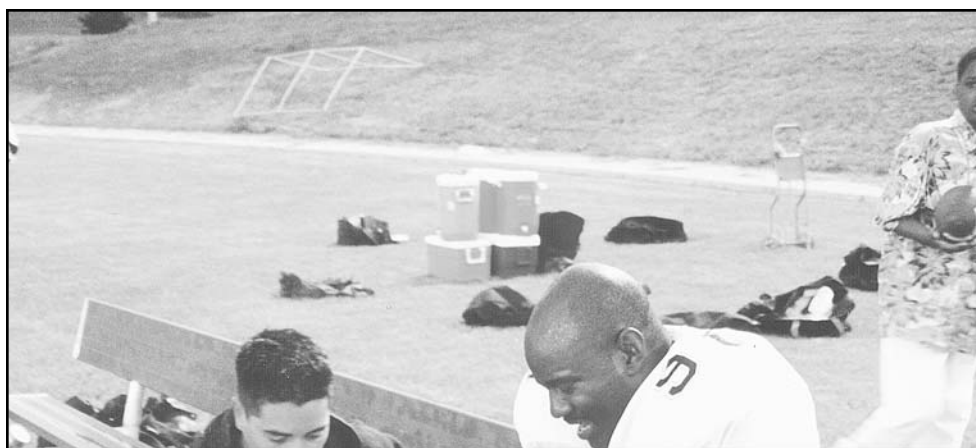
In the second half, the Generals kept the pressure on the Flames by scoring the first touchdown of the half to take a 19-0 lead. The Flames refused to quit and mounted their own scoring drive to close the gap to 19-6.

From that point on, the Generals defense shut down any scoring chance the Flames had and added two more touchdowns to their score to win the game 32-6.

The victory was sweet for the Generals who improved their record to 6-0. Still, the thought of the Generals winning last year's regular season game and then losing in the playoffs to the Flames has to be on the minds of both teams as they head for the championship season.



**Archie Bates, 27, stands up a ball carrier in the first half of the game against the Colorado Springs Flames.**



**Fort Carson's Joseph Johnson, a member of the Colorado Springs Flames, gets his knee looked at after he took a vicious hit in the first quarter.**



On the Bench

Sieracki lands a spot on the U.S. Olympic wrestling team

by Walt Johnson  
Mountaineer staff

Well gang, it's time to get down to the serious business of sports happenings and of course that means getting my opinion, unsolicited of course, on various things going on.

The Colorado Gold Kings professional hockey team is seeking volunteers to work games for the 2000-2001 season. The club is looking for volunteers for game day operations and office officiating.

The team is also looking for people interested in singing the national anthem and a person interested in performing public address duties for all home games. Anyone interested in singing the anthem or performing PA duties is asked to forward an audition tape to the Gold King's Annie DeGeorge at 6385 Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Colorado Springs, CO 80919 by Aug. 15. Anyone intersted in volunteering should contact DeGeorge at 268-7172.



I woke up Monday morning to the news that KKTV, Channel 11 sports anchor Jed Jackson had passed away from cancer. You may wonder why I would care to write about Jackson in this publication, and the answer is I believe he was a friend of the Fort Carson community.

I did not know Jackson personally, other than the times we met on official business, but I liked the man I knew. I first met Jackson when I was in the Air Force and I can't remember what the occasion was, to be honest with you. I remember him most, though, from his stint two years ago during the post's "Rockin-Jockin" basketball classic. Jackson was the honorary coach of one of the teams and I remembered talking with him during the event.

What is constantly coming to mind is the answer he gave to one of the questions I asked. Jackson told me " I enjoy being here for the kids," when I asked him why he came out to do this type of charity work. Jackson, and the many others from the community who have served as honorary coaches certainly did not have to take the time to

See Bench Page 22



Photo by Walt Johnson

A member of the Fort Carson Dodgers takes a huge swing but misses the ball during youth baseball action at the youth center baseball field Saturday.

## Bench

From Page 21

be here for the event, but he did. And, if you would have seen the enthusiasm he displayed that night, you would know that he was there because he wanted to be there, and for no other reason.

I enjoyed his newscast, and I am going to miss his unique and straight-ahead sportscasting. I'm going to remember the last words he released "with Jesus the best is yet to come," as I finish my life's work here.

Rest well Jed, but know that a lot of us will miss you.

**I couldn't help but feel a bit of remorse for Jackie Joyner-Kersey when she failed to make this year's Olympic team in the long jump.** It would be easy to say that Joyner-Kersey is past her prime and shouldn't have even tried to make the team but think about this for a minute. Why should anyone not go after his or her dream just because of age? I say thank you, Jackie, for reminding us that it is never too late to chase after a dream.

**Speaking of chasing dreams, I ran into the World Class Athlete Program's John Medina the other day** and I am happy to report he is recovering well from his wrist surgery. Prior to the Olympics selections, I thought Medina was the best bet to make the U.S. team, but his wrist injury caught up with him. I'm hoping he makes a full recovery and gives it another shot in 2004.

**It seems funny to be talking about football, and we haven't even**

**played the intramural softball championships here yet,** but I just can't help myself. Once again this year we will be featuring the picks of *Mountaineer* faithfuls in our pick section. This year though we will be doing something a little different. Each week, the person who has the most picks correct will be one of the selectors again the following week. We are going to see if anyone can maintain a streak of three consecutive weeks picking the games correctly. This should be a very interesting season in the NFL.

**I'm putting all that "team from Texas" fans on notice right now, the free ride is over.** From this point until the Super Bowl, we "that team from Texas" haters will have to report what we find out about the team which we predict will go 12 and four this year. That is 12 arrests and four convictions ....

**I think there will be two teams that go a lot further than people think this year, all things being equal** and injuries don't ravage them. In the American Football Conference, I love what the Baltimore Ravens have done for their offense. This team will be as explosive as any in football, and they should challenge the Tennessee Titans and Jacksonville Jaguars for conference supremacy. Also, look for the Oakland Raiders to make some noise and get back to the playoffs this year.

**In the National Football Conference I just love the way the Chicago Bears are shaping up.** The Bears just may win the NFC Central if the Buccaneers can't mount the type of offense a champion needs. Don't laugh at this prediction — the New Orleans



Photo by Walt Johnson

## Filming a future star?

**Carla Platteborze videos her son Ty during the youth baseball contest between the Fort Carson Dodgers and Rockies. Platteborze is one of many parents that come out and cheer for the children.**

Saints will be a very representative football team this year.

If anyone has a story idea they would like me to consider, e-mail me at [internj@uswest.net](mailto:internj@uswest.net) or call me at 443-

9939.

Remember, the best way to see an article about something you want to read about is to give us ideas. We love hearing from you.



# Post soccer team hosts tournament

by Walt Johnson  
Mountaineer staff

The Mountain Post varsity soccer team will host the annual rite of summer for soccer teams in this region today, Saturday and Sunday at the Mountain Post Sports Complex and the soccer field adjacent to Forrest Fitness Center.

The post team is one of 26 men's teams in addition to 12 women's teams that are vying for the championship in the recently renamed Fort Carson Colorado Springs Soccer Club Invitational 2000 soccer tournament. The post does not have a team in the women's bracket.

According to Ben Stancati, post soccer coach, this is the premier summer tournament in the region and will have some of the best soccer action over the course of the tournament.

The men's side of the tournament will be run in the World Cup format. There will be six four-team brackets for the men. After the first two days, 12 of the 24 teams will be eliminated from the competition based on their play in their respective bracket.

The post team will have a tough challenge in their bracket according to Stancati, because they will face the team that is believed to be the best team in the tournament, Selecion Phoenix, in their first game at 6 p.m. tonight at the Mountain Post number three field.

Stancati said the post team is looking forward to the challenge of meeting Phoenix in the first round.

"The lads understand that we are going to have to beat Selecion Phoenix at one point in the tournament if we are going to win it so they don't have a problem playing them in the first game," Stancati said.

"We understand that this game can actually serve two purposes for us. It gives us the chance to measure ourselves against the team that everyone considers the odds on favorite to win the tournament. We can measure where we are based on what we do in that game."

The post team will play in the "B" bracket with Phoenix, Colorado Springs United and the SLV All Stars. After the opening night game against Selecion



Photo by Walt Johnson

**The post soccer team will be in action this weekend facing the best competitors from Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona at the Mountain Post Sports Complex and the soccer field adjacent to Forrest Fitness Center.**

Phoenix, the post team will play two games Saturday to try to advance to the championship round on Sunday.

Saturday, the post team plays Colorado Springs United at 9:15 a.m. on Mountain Post Sports Complex field three. The post team returns to action at 3:30 p.m. Saturday on Mountain Post Sports Complex field number one when they meet the SLV all-stars.

All proceeds from the tournament will be split equally between the post and the Colorado Springs Soccer Club. The Colorado Springs Soccer Club, of which the post team is a member, will donate its profits to the Special Olympics.





File photo by Spc. Cecile Cromartie

The water park is a popular attraction on hot summer days.

# Colorado's Six Flags park

by Nel Lampe  
Mountaineer staff



Elitch Gardens — now known as Six Flags Elitch Gardens — has been a leisure-

time fixture in Denver since 1890. An apple orchard at Denver's edge was turned into a recreation area by its owners, John and Mary Elitch. They added a ball park and picnic areas, thus beginning the first step toward becoming a first-class family amusement park.

Elitch Gardens soon became a popular place for family outings. The owners added a theater which operated for 96 years as well-known actors appeared on its stage. In 1905, the sixth hand-carved wooden carousel built by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company was added to the Gardens. It was replaced in 1928 by still another Philadelphia Toboggan Company carousel, this one even larger and grander than its predecessor.

The huge Tropicana Ballroom was a hit in the '40s and '50s, with swing bands like Tommy Dorsey attracting



File photo by Spc. Cecile Cromartie

Riders enjoy the "Turn of the Century" ride, one of 40 rides available in Six Flags Elitch Gardens.

hundreds of dancers.

Elitch Gardens continued to be the center of entertainment in Denver. A giant wooden roller coaster, the Twister, was added in the '60s.

But after more than 100 years at its original location on 38th Avenue, Elitch Gardens was moved to downtown Denver near Interstate 25 and Speer Boulevard. It opened in May

1995 at its new location.

Millions of dollars worth of new attractions were added to the park after the move.

Acquired by Six Flags Theme Parks a few years ago, the amusement park is now known as Six Flags Elitch Gardens.

Six Flags Elitch Gardens has 40 rides and attractions, with something for all ages in the 50-acre park.

What would an amusement park be without a roller coaster? Six Flags Elitch Gardens has four of them.

The Boomerang is the newest roller coaster and is a crowd favorite. The steel-track coaster takes riders through a series of loops and spins — forward and backward — at 50 mph.

Roller coaster purists like Twister II, the classic wooden roller coaster which is nearly 100 feet tall — equivalent to a 10-story building. It has a 90-foot drop and a dark tunnel.

Or try another popular ride, the Mind Eraser. This roller coaster is a world-class inverted steel roller coaster



Photo by Spc. Cecile Cromartie

Cars of riders flip over during a Chaos ride at Six Flags Elitch Gardens.

See Six Flags, Page B-2

# Happy Holidays



A pull-out section for the Fort Carson community

July 21, 2000



Six Flags

From Page B-1

that loops and soars 10 stories skyward as passengers ascend 100 feet then go straight down before entering a corkscrew track. Speeds are sometimes greater than 60 mph.

As to whether or not minds are really erased during a ride — maybe that depends on how long you stand in line to be punished a second time.

Not tired of roller coasters yet? Try the Sidewinder, another coaster made of steel.

The Tower of Doom is a popular ride, where riders free-fall 22 stories, feet dangling freely, before plummeting 60 mph toward the ground.

The water adventure park is highly popular with visitors to Six Flags Elitch Gardens. Called Island Kingdom, the tropical-type paradise is for the whole family. Blue lagoons, colorful inner-tubes and twisting or turning waterslides, crashing waves, palm trees and meandering rivers entice hot visitors. More than 850,000 gallons of water are in the park, along with tropical plants, lounge chairs and a Caribbean Island look. The waterpark is included in the admission price.

Shipwreck Falls is also for all members of the family. Takers go up a 280-foot incline, followed by a plunge over a 50-foot waterfall and into a tidal wave.

What would an amusement park be without a Ferris wheel? Ride The Big Wheel — a 100-foot high Ferris wheel which has a breathtaking view of Denver from the top.

For another spectacular view of Denver, take the high-speed elevator to the top of the 250-foot high Observation Tower.

Added when the park was taken over by Six Flags, StarToon Studios appeals to younger children. A playland in a cartoon studio setting, there's more than a dozen rides for the people who are under 48 inches tall. People dressed as Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Sylvester, Froghorn Leghorn and Tasmanian Devil are in the park, as well as DC Comics characters.

In "Batman Forever Thrill Spectacular," Batman battles Two-Face and The Riddler in a 20-minute production filled with stunts, high-speed chases and explosions.

"Broadway Rhythm" is a 25-minute revue in the Trocadero Theatre which includes memorable Broadway songs and performances.

Visitors who want to bring a picnic lunch on



Photo by Nel Lampe

Four roller coasters are in the park, including a classic wooden one, Twister II.



Photo by Nel Lampe

Six Flags Elitch Gardens looks like a giant erector set against the Denver skyline.

the Six Flags Elitch Gardens trip may do so, but the picnic tables are in the parking lot and coolers aren't allowed in the park. Eat before or after your park visit, or make the trek back to the car when you get hungry.

You can bring your own stroller or rent one in the park.

The entrance fee is \$33 for adults and \$16.50 for children under 48 inches tall. All rides are included. Children under age 3 are admitted free. Parking costs \$6.

You can get discounted tickets at Information Tickets and Registration, located in the Mini Mall. Tickets at ITR are \$18.50 for adults and \$15.25 for children.

Although admission price includes all rides, there are opportunities to spend money everywhere. There's the temptation of the arcades and you'll need to rent one or two-person tubes for some of the water park rides.

Rental lock boxes are available to store your swimming gear. Lockers are at Tennyson Street Emporium, Island Kingdom Water Park, near the Sidewinder, Disaster Canyon and the Boardwalk.

And lots of food choices are available in Six Flags Elitch Gardens.

The Hollywood Diner has burgers, fries and shakes. There's Rockin' E Buckaroo BBQ & Grill and a Subway sandwich shop. Island Breeze has pizza, hot dogs and hamburgers. Tortoni's Pizza has pizzas, pretzels, nachos and wings. Humpty Dumpty Cheeseburgers has half-pound burgers and Foghorn Leghorn's has fries with cheese and other snacks. There are snack stands and carts throughout the park, serving ice

cream, snowcones, popcorn, pretzels, funnel cakes and cotton candy.

Soft drinks and cold beer are also available.

Park gift shops have film, hats, sunglasses or Colorado sports team merchandise.

Six Flags Elitch Gardens is open every day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. through Aug. 26 and again Labor Day weekend. The last week in August the park closes at 8 p.m. then is open only on weekends through October.

The park is closed from Nov. 1 until May.

Six Flags Elitch Gardens is a rather small park — not nearly as large as other Six Flags parks you may have visited. It's a good idea to start your day as early as you can to avoid the long lines which accumulate as the day goes on. Holidays are especially crowded.

To reach Six Flags Elitch Gardens, take Interstate 25 north to Denver, taking Exit 212A. For information call (303) 595-4386.



Photo by Sgt. Tony Joseph

Riders' feet dangle as they come around a curve on the Mind Eraser.

Just the Facts

- **Travel time** one hour
- **For ages** all
- **Type** Amusement park
- **Fun factor** ★★★★★ (Out of 5 stars)
- **Wallet damage** \$\$\$ to \$\$\$\$
  - \$ = Less than \$20
  - \$\$ = \$21 to \$40
  - \$\$\$ = \$41 to \$80
  - \$\$\$\$ = \$80 to \$100(Based on a family of four)



al service for long-time civil service  
ol Noble will be held at Soldiers'  
apel today at 11 a.m. Following the  
will be planted in her memory in front  
Readiness Center. Noble passed away  
17.

### **Family Member Employment Assistance conducting the following upcoming-**

Workshop is scheduled for July 26.  
will include how to write a cover let-  
f resume styles and many points on  
techniques. For more information, call

ng a Career" workshop is scheduled  
ne workshop will explore career fields  
tible with each individual's personality.  
mation, call 526-0452.

ly Member Employment Assistance  
nsoring recruiting days for  
uesday, Thursday and Friday from  
a.m. at the Family Readiness Center.  
currently hiring for four of their  
ngs locations and one in Fountain.  
d crew positions are available. For  
ion, call 526-0452.

### **Financial Readiness Program offers the ses in July:**

g for financial planning is scheduled  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Army  
service. This class provides education  
on financial planning, budget counsel-  
ner issues.

lder Plus Seminar is scheduled for  
4 to 5:30 p.m. at Army Community  
class provides information on establish-  
olishing credit.

Planning for First Term Soldiers is  
July 31 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at  
ater. This class provides financial  
ation. For more information, call 526-

ly Advocacy Program sponsors the  
Fatherhood Connection for all fathers  
-be. The group meets Wednesdays  
n. to 12:45 p.m. for a brown-bag lunch  
at the Family Readiness Center, build-  
more information, call 526-4590.

on has volunteer vacancies in the fol-  
ms:

Community Services Puppet Troupe

Fort Carson Emergency Medical Technician  
school is offering classes in Emergency Medical  
Technician (basic) refresher course Aug. 14 to 18. For  
more information, call 526-2820.

**Child and Youth Services currently has open-  
ings for Family Child Care providers.** FCC  
providers are needed both on- and off-post. Free  
training, free child care during training classes, a free  
starter kit and free use of the toy/equipment lending  
library will be provided. An orientation class is con-  
ducted the first Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at  
Child and Youth Services, building 5510, on Harr  
Avenue. If interested, call the Family Child Care  
offices at 526-3338.

**There is a position available for a computer  
specialist (GS 11) with the 2nd Brigade, 91st  
Division, building 1011.** For more information, call  
Carmen Ayala 526-5942.

**The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is  
increasing its Deferred Payment Plan interest rate  
from 13.75 percent to 14.25 percent.** The raise fol-  
lows the Federal Reserve's recent increase in the  
prime interest rate to 9.5 percent. The new rate is  
lower than the average variable bankcard rate; 16.54  
percent for Standard, 16.06 percent for Gold and  
16.03 percent for Platinum.

**The United States Air Force Academy's Cadet  
Sponsor Program is looking for volunteers to act  
as sponsors for the class of 2004 during the 2000-  
2001 school year.** For more information or to apply  
to the Cadet Sponsor Program or to request to spon-  
sor exchange academy cadets, please call the  
Extracurricular Activities office at 333-2727 or 333-  
3477. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30  
a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Sponsors are needed for students attending the  
Preparatory School at the Air Force Academy.** The  
Prep School is designed to prepare students for  
admission and success at the AFA. Sponsors must be  
E-7 and above, O-3 and above or GS-07 and above.  
To apply to sponsor, contact Capt. Roxanne Skinner  
at 333-9345 or roxanne.skinner@usafa.af.mil. For  
more information, visit  
<http://www.usafa.af.mil/10abw-hc/Sponsors.htm>.

**The Rocky Mountain Technology Expo and  
Job Fair is scheduled for Sept. 20 to 23 at the  
Doubletree Hotel and World Arena.** Conference  
tracks will be technology partners, attracting and  
retaining a high-tech workforce, managing for suc-  
cess and an entrepreneurial track. For more informa-  
tion, call 548-1822.

ecosystem. If you would like to experie  
of caving contact the information desk  
Recreation Building at 526-2083. Group  
ed and there is an equipment list.

**All dogs and cats must be registered  
Fort Carson Veterinary Treatment Fa  
10 working days upon arrival here.** F  
dogs, cats and pets are required to have  
able electronic microchip implanted into  
as part of the registration process. This  
diate identification of all animals impor  
and return of the animal to its owner as  
sible. Animal owners can have the micro  
ed at the Fort Carson Veterinary Treatm  
cost plus a minimal administration fee.  
comply with this policy is grounds for e  
Fort Carson housing.

**Monica Fontenot, an employee of M  
needs annual leave donations to help c  
absence due to the exhaustion of her a  
leave.** For more information, call Janice  
526-7248.

**Diana Clemens, a MEDDAC empl  
annual leave donations to help cover h  
due to the exhaustion of her available  
more information, call Janice Milligan at**

**The Muscular Dystrophy Associati  
volunteers from the Colorado Spring  
with the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon, se  
through 4. Volunteer activities include a  
phones, escorting sponsors and more. F  
mation or to volunteer, call the local M  
260-8777 or MDA national headquarter  
572-1717. Information about MDA pro  
research advances is available at [www.mda.org](http://www.mda.org)**

## **Youth**

**School, sports and camp physical  
at Evans Army Community Hospital  
garten- through college-age students.  
are for families enrolled in TRICARE F  
EACH. Physicals are available during th  
of Tuesday and Aug. 2, 8 and 16. For m  
tion on scheduling an appointment call**

**The 2000 through 2001 6th Grade  
is Aug. 11 at Carson Middle School, 1  
Students are required to attend the orien  
parents are welcome. Please arrive betw  
1 p.m. Bus service information for this**



...receiving ACAP service. The center will provide services Aug. 21 through 29. For more information, call 526-1002 or 526-0640.

**Quartermaster Center and Fuel and Water Department** invite members of the Petroleum and Water Old Guard on Sept. 22 and 23. To mark the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, the Quartermaster Center is honoring those who served by memorializing the Quartermaster Petroleum Supply Company. Members involved with the 529th are asked to contact the center at (804) 734-1329.

**Central Issue Facility requests solo lock or park in the parking lot during operations.** It prevents movers from parking in the building. For more information, call 526-3367.

### **Department of Logistics is conducting the following for July:**

**Avoidance Training** in the DOL classroom, 8100, July 26 from 8 a.m. until noon. Attendance is mandatory for all vehicle and equipment assigned to installation directorates and activities who have not attended in the past year. The class is limited to the first 50 people at the Driver Training Station at 526-3367.

**Course** in building 301, July 31 to August 1. For more information, call 526-3367.

**Division Reserve band in Livonia, Michigan, looking for qualified musicians.** For an audition, call (734) 458-6409 or e-mail: [band@livonia.army.mil](mailto:band@livonia.army.mil).

**United States Air Force is now enlisting individuals from any military branch.** Members wishing to enlist in the Air Force must have been separated from active duty with a discharge not less than three months, have a release of 1 and be otherwise qualified. For more information, visit a local Air Force recruiter or contact USAF.

**Opportunities for Single Soldiers** are every second and fourth Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Christopher's. For more information on how you can become active in the program, participate in events or if you have concerns or questions; contact Spc. Amy Johnson at 4-BOSS (2677). Sponsoring a whitewater rafting trip July 27 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 per soldier. To register, visit Outdoor Recreation, building 1430. For more information, call BOSS at 524-1902 or Outdoor Recreation at 526-2083.

**Observer Controller/Trainer?** Across the western United States, from Hawaii to the Dakotas and from Montana to New Mexico, show others what you know about being a soldier. Join the Reserves. The 2nd Brigade, 91st Division, has openings in South Dakota, Utah and Colorado. For more information, call 526-9529.

**The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs ROTC conducts a Green-to-Gold briefing every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Education Center.** If you are interested in becoming an Army officer and receiving a bachelor's degree, call Maj. Frank Gray or 2nd Lt. Steven Grogger at 262-3236.

**The Oklahoma National Guard is in desperate need of lieutenants to fill unit vacancies.** Any young soldier who is approaching ETS and already has a bachelor's degree or who has a minimum of 90 credit hours toward a degree and meets the prerequisites to attend Officer Candidate School is encouraged to apply. There is also a direct commissioning program available for sergeants E-5 and above about to ETS who have a bachelor's degree. Contact Maj. Vicki Jones at (405) 228-5255.

**The Army Career and Alumni Program center now has set times for clearing.** Monday through Wednesday, 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday 9 to 10 a.m. and 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 2:30 p.m. If you have questions please call 526-1002 or 526-0640, or visit the Web page [www.carson.army.mil/ACAP/acap.html](http://www.carson.army.mil/ACAP/acap.html).

### **The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club event calendar is as follows:**

All meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at the Mountain Post Wellness Center on the second floor conference room in the Family Readiness Center.

Induction ceremonies and rehearsals are held at McMahon Theater. All other events are conducted in the main conference room of building 1430. For more information, call 526-2409 or 526-3887.

**Effective July 15,** the incorporation of any material not defined as construction debris, sludge or POL contaminated soil shall not be placed in landfill #1 because of state and federal solid waste laws. All non-hazardous solid waste/materials, including concertina wire and demilitarized materials, must either go into a rolloff/dumpster or to the DRMO as determined by the DPW and the DRMO.

**United States Air Force Academy — Regional Career Fair 2000 is Aug. 4 and 5.** The Regional Career Fair 2000 is your chance to meet with prospective employers from around the nation. Wear business interview attire, bring ample copies of your resume, market yourself and be prepared for a possible on-site interview or test. Please call your Transition Assistance or Army Career and Alumni

**Sustaining Base Leadership and Management Class 00-3, Sept. 19 to Dec. 13,** will so. Ensure you are one of the select members of the class by contacting your local Civilian Leadership Advisory Center for the application deadline. If selected, come prepared for an educational, diverse and enlightening new approach to leadership in today's Army. For more information, contact the Army Management Staff College's Web page at <http://www.amscl.belvoir.army.mil/res.htm>.

**The 4th Personnel Services Battalion is holding its annual Organization Day, Aug. 1.** For more information, please call the staff duty noncommissioned officer at 526-0210.

**The 1st Annual 7th ID and Fort Carson Dragon Ball** will be at the Radisson Inn, 1000 Newport Road, at the intersection of Power and Fountain, behind the Lockheed Martin building. The cost is \$20 per person, and the social hour starts at 5 p.m. RSVP with money no later than August 1. Contact Alan Bisenieks at 526-3934 or 1st Sgt. Robert Smith at 526-8787 or 1345.

**The 89th Chemical Company, Supply Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment will conduct an M93A1 FOX Reconnaissance swim** at Townsend Reservoir behind the 3rd Armored Cavalry Supply Point at 10 a.m. on Aug. 2. All 1st Armored Cavalry personnel are invited. Hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages will be sold. For more information, contact Alan Bisenieks at 526-3934.

**Editor's note:** The deadline for submitting "Briefs" to the Mountaineer is 5 p.m. the day before publication date.

### **GSA Vehicle Reminders — General**

Services Administration vehicle was assigned to two per month. Maximum allowance is \$10 per wash. The 7th Wave Car Wash is located at 2510 East Boulder, (west of Platteau and Circle Drive) provides GSA washes for \$9.95. Ask for the "Fort Carson GSA Wash" and Drivers are encouraged to take advantage of free washes with fuel fill-up where cost is less. Excessive washes or cost will be billed to the user activity. Fuel purchase problem. Drivers are again reminded that only regular gas may be purchased for GSA vehicles. Premium fuel is not authorized. GSA Voyager credit card may not be used to purchase bulk fuel. Drivers should always check charge card for proper entries (type and quantity of fuel per gallon, etc.) before signing the slip. Questions should be directed to the patch office at 526-1651.

**Cricket anyone?** Those interested in playing cricket at Fort Carson or in the surrounding communities should contact the Fort Carson Cricket Club at 526-1002 or 526-0640.

**ment at Forrest Fitness Center** call K. FitLinxx director, at 524-1902 or 526-2083.

season, which also features Hal Mark Twain Tonight," "Show Boat," "Jekyll and Hyde" and "Footloose." For information.

## **and the Commodores**

and the Commodores are scheduled for at Pershing Field on post. Tickets are Information, Ticket and Registration Mini Mall, and tickets start at \$15.

## **NASCAR races**

**CAR Busch Grand National Series** is International Raceway today and tickets are available for today's qualifiers race. Check with the ticket office at ask about the military discount.

## **County Fair**

and fashioned **county fair**, which antique tractor pull, dances, entertainment and a chance to see prize winning and champion livestock. The El Paso held in Calhan, east of Colorado Highway 24, Tuesday through July 30. For check the Web site [www.co.el-](http://www.co.el-) [y Fair](http://www.co.el-) or call 575-8690. Admission is \$2 for children under 12.

## **ajano music scene**

Award winner Emilio Navaira and El perform at The Chief Theater, 611 N. Pueblo Sunday at 9 p.m. Advance tickets Music Man CDs and Tapes at Circle and the door for \$18.

## **Water World**

**Water World** is open until Sept. 4, in a, 88th and Pecos Streets. Information, registration is planning a trip to the / 29. Leave the driving to someone c with ITR to sign up; call 526-5366.

## **Doll sale**

Goodwill hosts its **annual doll sale** July 28 and 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Rocky Mountain Greyhound Park, 3701 N. Nevada Ave. Dolls for sale include hundreds of dolls and stuffed toys. Collectible and antique dolls are included in the selection.

## **Renaissance Festival**

There are only two weekends left to visit the **middle ages village** near Larkspur this season. Gates open at 10 a.m., rain or shine, and close at 6:30 p.m. There's free parking and a shuttle to the village. Entrance is \$13.95 for adults and \$6 for children under 12, or pick up discounted tickets at the Information, Tickets and Registration office at the Mini Mall. This weekend's theme is "music and dance," featuring dances from around the world.

## **Come to see the wizard**

"**Wizard of Oz**" is at McMahon Theater July 28 at 7 p.m. and July 29 and 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$2 for children under 12. The performance is sponsored by Fort Carson's Child and Youth Services School of the Arts.

## **Colorado State Fair concerts**

The **concert series for the Colorado State Fair**, Aug. 19 through Sept. 4 has been set. Stars such as Pat Benatar, Dwight Yoakam, Wayne Newton, Clay Walker, Carrot Top and Chris Ledoux are on the agenda. Styx, The Statler Brothers, Blood Sweat and Tears and the '60s' reunion concert of The Turtles, Gary Puckett and The Buckingham are also appearing. Check with TicketMaster at 520-9090, call (800) 444-FAIR or check the Web site at [www.col-oradostatefair.com](http://www.col-oradostatefair.com) for dates and prices.

## **Academy Concerts**

**This year's season tickets** are now on sale. Choose a five, six or seven show package, beginning Sept. 16 with "Anything Goes." Other performances

## **Bull Races**

### **The World Championship Pack B**

held in Fairplay, about two hours west of Colorado Springs on the way to Breckenridge. The mile course and a 15-mile course. For information call (719) 836-2090.

## **Rock and blues**

The Greenway and Nature Center of Colorado brings back the blues in its 3rd annual **Blues Fest** Aug. 6, beginning at noon. The fundraiser for the center and includes B McClelland Band of Alabama, Denver's Emilio and other performers. An arts fair and refreshments round out the day. Take I-25 south to exit 101, then Highway 50 West to the Nature Center.

## **Rodeo**

**Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo** runs Aug. 10-12 at Penrose Stadium, on Rio Grande between 21st Street on Colorado Springs' west side. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday matinees are at 1:30 p.m. Fort Carson night from unit first sergeants on major. Information, Tickets and Registration for all performances at \$7.50.

## **Parade**

The annual traditional **rodeo parade** is Aug. 9, in downtown Colorado Springs. The parade runs along Cascade and Nevada Avenues. Children, a lawn chair or two and enjoy a view of horses, bands and floats.

## **Open cockpit day**

The Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum at Memorial Airport hosts "open cockpit day" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The featured aircraft is a Force F-100 Super Sabre jet fighter.





click on the icon for Mountain Post Magazine.

**Mountain Post Magazine:** Stories on and about Fort Carson soldiers, civilians and family members. Includes 101 Days of Summer Safety video on children and airbags. Airs at 7 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and midnight.

**Army Newswatch:** includes stories on the new Medal of Honor recipients, the new Sergeant Major of the Army and JEDI gear. Airs at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.

**Air Force News:** includes stories on hurricane hunters, Gen. Lloyd Newton and the Khobar Towers memorial. Airs at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 1 a.m.

**Navy/Marine Corps News:** includes stories on the International Naval Review 2000, the Commander-in-Chief reviewing warships and the Intrepid Museum. Airs at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

Fort Carson Town Hall Meeting: Rebroadcast of

e-mail at:

[RuleDo@carson-exch1.army.mil](mailto:RuleDo@carson-exch1.army.mil) .

Program times will be published in the *Mountaineer* provided coordination is made prior to publication.

If you have ideas for Mountain Post 1 contact 1st Lt. Nadia Calderolli at 526-122941.

If you wish to have a training videotape Channel 9, contact the Regional Training Center at 526-5111.

For additions to the Community Calendar submit a clean, typewritten copy of the information to the Public Affairs Office, room 2180, building 100 Fort Carson, CO 80913 or fax it to 526-122941 than the Friday before airing time.